

COMICS BUYER'S GUIDE

#1306

November 27, 1998

ISSN 0745-4570

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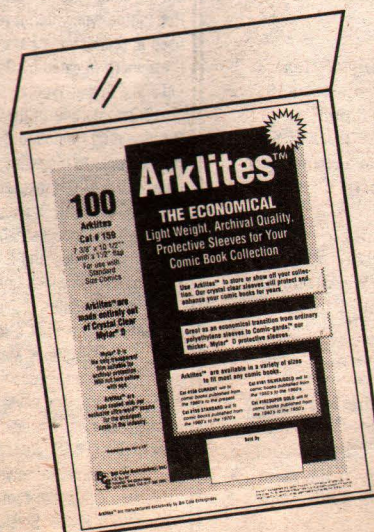
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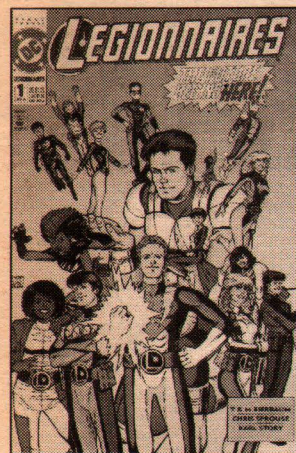
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This week in CBG



On the cover

From the more simple world of the 1950s to the Technicolor world of today, The Legion of Super-Heroes has created icons that readers can identify with for the past 40 years. Former Legion Editor KC Carlson shares his thoughts on Legion history and his involvement with the series on Page 38, while Matt Brady reveals upcoming Legion news on Page 26 and T Campbell provides anecdotes from Legion fandom on Page 28.

So polish up your flight ring, board the Time Bubble, and head for the 30th century. Who knows? Maybe today is membership application day at Legion headquarters. (And on Page 42 you can learn how that building came to be.)



Batman creator Bob Kane dies

The Golden Age creator passed away Nov. 3.

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November 18

Darick Robertson (artist of *Transmetropolitan* and *Vertigo: Winter's Edge II*) at Golden Apple, 7711 Melrose Ave., Hollywood, California from 2 to 8 p.m.

Ted Adams, Kris Oprisko, Lee Bermejo, Carlos D'Anda, Ryan Odagawa, Mark Irwin, and John Tighe (*Resident Evil* creative team) at

Sky High Comics, 273-C S. Rancho Santa Fe Rd., San Marcos, California 92069 from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

November 21

Chris Bachalo (artist of *Uncanny X-Men*) at David's Comic Book Store, 25422 Trabuco, #101, Lake Forest, California from noon to 3 p.m.

Gary Gianni (artist of *The Savage Tales of Solomon Kane*) at Words & Pictures Museum, 140 Main St., Northampton, Massachusetts. Call (413) 586-8545 for times.

Alyson Hannigan and Anthony Stewart Head (Willow and Giles on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*) at Metro Entertainment, 6 W. Anapamu, Santa Barbara, California 93101, from 1 to 4 p.m.

Comics Buyer's Guide #1306 November 27, 1998 (Vol. 28, #48)

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Subscription matters can also be e-mailed to circulation@krause.com.

Printed in the USA.

Comics Buyer's Guide (ISSN 0745-4570) is published weekly for \$38.95 per year by Krause Publications, Inc., 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990; Clifford Mishler, president, Iola, WI 54945. Periodical class postage paid at Iola, WI 54945, and additional mailing offices.

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Guest Editorial: Sharing dreams

By Paul Levitz

Superman. Batman. Wonder Woman. Flash. Green Lantern. Aquaman. The Martian Manhunter. Oh, yes, and Archie Andrews' gang up in Riverdale. That's the entire list of comics characters being published when The Legion of Super-Heroes was born that have been around continuously since. A very short list — shorter than the Legion's own membership list was within a year or so after its founding.

Maybe it's the future that made it happen. After all, the last 40 years have been disproportionately about the future. We've lived through a time when human knowledge has been growing exponentially, and with it, perhaps, the average reader's interest in the shape of the future. Certainly science fiction has matured in those same decades from a genre rarely published in hardcovers to one that reliably generates its own hardcover bestsellers. And no series in comics is as closely linked to its science-fiction origins as The Legion.

Otto Binder. Jerry Siegel. Edmond Hamilton. Mort Weisinger. Four science-fiction legends who were The Legion's founding fathers. Two of SF's great writers of the pulp era and two of the medium's most active members of First Fandom. These were men who wanted to see the future, to touch it, and to shape it. From childhood, each wanted to share his dreams of what the world would become. Even without a credit line in the comics, the Legion's readers could feel their passion.

Or maybe it's the youth. The Legion was always assertively about young people, growing up with unusual powers in unusual situations. Long before angst was added to the recipe for super-hero groups, the Legionnaires had concerns that were intrinsic to youth. And although the members have aged (off and on) over the decades, there's always been a touch of the dilemmas of growing up to attract the attention of a new generation of kids as readers.

With the youth of the characters came the youth of the later chroniclers, too. Legion was a young writer's dream (speaking for myself, reflecting the 17-year-old who got to script a piece of his favorite mythology, and speaking for the even younger Jim Shooter, who preceded me at the awesome age of 13). And the imaginative world of The Legion was, if not always a young artist's dream, at least a young artist's assignment — based on the nightmare it represented for older pencillers. Each brought the passion of the young creator, anxious to make a distinctive mark, whether with new uniform designs or new plot twists, and kept the series fresh.

Future, youth, or some other magic ingredient unidentified, the Legion lives. Perhaps more than any other mainstream comic book, it lives for its fans, and almost always by its fans. When the Legion began, seemingly a throwaway gimmick in a Superboy story, it was the fans who kept finding each new cameo appearance and writing in to encourage more. When the series went away in the early '70s, it was the relentless demands of an early generation of comics fans that brought it back. And it was the fans who grew up to help create the series, when our turn came.

Long live The Legion, then, and long live its fans!

Paul Levitz was the Legion's principal writer from 1976 to 1978 and 1980 to 1989, after a childhood whose highlights included the Legion as his first complete comics collection and making Legionnaire paper dolls. He has served in a variety of roles at DC Comics and has been its Executive Vice President and Publisher since 1989.

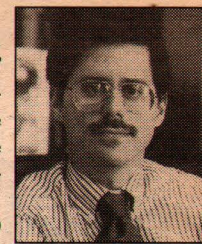
So what the heck was on the cover of CBG #1295?

Winners in the contest to identify components on the cover of CBG #1295 were announced last week. But many readers who did not enter (and some who did) may be curious about specifics, so here are some details: Centerpiece of the shot is an antique Remington typewriter. It represents the creaky mechanics of how early fanzines were produced but it's not one that was actually used in production of any, as far as we know. Sitting on the keyboard is a fan-produced "limberjack" of The Pie-Faced Prince of Pretzelberg (created by George Carlson — re-"created" by fan Rick Dey). Sharing the typewriter with the Prince are a Toots Pep pin and a Spider-Woman small plastic glass (one of many distributed via vending machine).

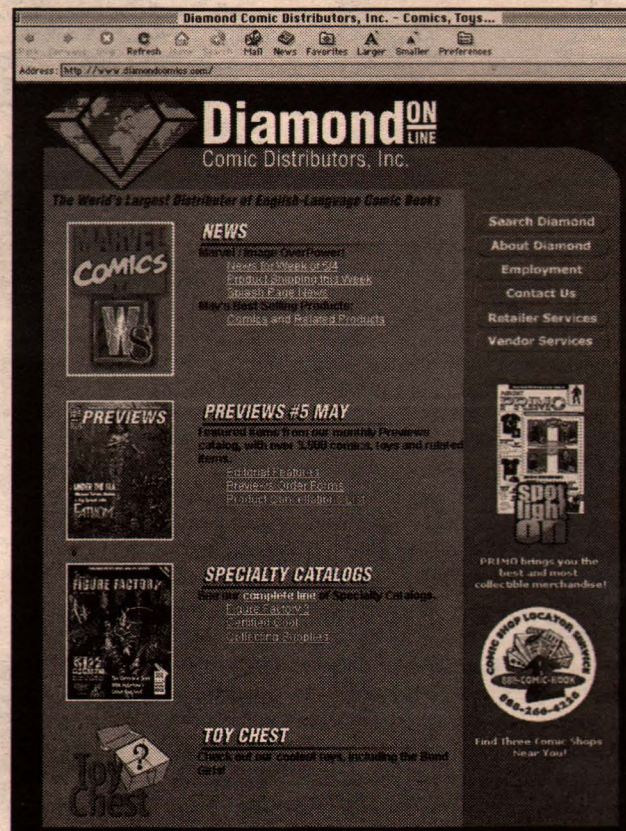
Then, starting in the lower left and heading clockwise, there's a copy of Overstreet's first price guide, a Captain Midnight Ovaltine mug (minus top), a Captain Marvel club pin, a Tilda Gump Pep pin, the Ballantine paperback collection of Harvey Kurtzman's *Humbug* magazine, an I Go Pogo button, a Skeeze Pep Button, a Friends of Old Marvel membership card, sitting on a copy of the *FOOM* magazine, a Broom Hilda stitch-on patch, a Pluto toy (whose tail was broken off in the process of setting up the shot — argh!), a mailing envelope from Krupp Comic Works when it produced underground comix mailed from Milwaukee (before it changed its name to Kitchen Sink and moved to Princeton, Wis., and, later, Northampton, Mass.), a Spider-Man reel from View-Master, and a view of some of the tabletop also seen beneath the typewriter. (The table, by the way, is the original kitchen table on which Chet Krause pasted up *Numismatic News* #1, which started Krause Publications in October 1952.)

The first edition of Dick Lupoff and Don Thompson's *All in Color for a Dime*, the first issue of Jim Warren's *Eerie* (yes, this is authentic; that's what it looked like); the 1966 *Batman* Signet paperback of comic-book reprints; another I Go Pogo pin; two items from The Merry Marvel Marching Society (a pin and stationery pad); two Pep pins (Superman, Inspector); some of that is sitting on the most recent issue of Don and Maggie Thompson's *Comic Art*; a paperback collection of *Bull Tales* (*Doonesbury* in its preliminary, Yale days); a Bugs Bunny Tall Comic Book #530 (a variant "Big Little Book" type format from 1943 which reprinted material from *Looney Tunes* #1 and #5); and (under the "Celebrate Comics!" burst) a copy of *The Buyer's Guide for Comic Fandom* #1 (1971). *Alter Ego* #1 (with considerable and bewildering discoloration which did not look that purple in the set-up); a San Diego Comic-Con flyer; a Little Lulu wall decoration; a Mighty Marvel Marching Society pencil; a Beaugard cup (one of six Pogo characters that came packaged with Biz, Comet, or similar Procter & Gamble cleaning material); a Peter Parker-Spider-Man Secret Wars Flicker Shield which came with an action figure; more Pep buttons (including Mama Katzenjammer, Smokey Stover behind the cup, *Winnie Winkle* character Denny Dimwit, Lillums, Shadow, Emmy, Smilin' Jack almost completely obscured, and Felix); and plastic Morbius teeth. And there are four items even we can't identify any more: the red-backed item with the letter "a" partly visible by *Alter Ego* and the three fannish-looking items in the region of the far right (a 40¢ item, some kind of magazine, and a Dittoed fanzine with the letters "ST" visible).

(And, yes, one entrant did point out that Beetle Bailey and Mort Walker were also on the cover.)



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ON THE WORLD WIDE WEB!**

Batman creator Bob Kane dies

By Brent Frankenhoff

Batman creator Bob Kane died Nov. 3 at his home in California. Although reports of his death gave his age as 83, biographies list his date of birth as Oct. 24, 1916.

Born in the Bronx, N.Y., Kane received his art training at the Art Students League and Cooper Union, according to Ron Goulart's *The Encyclopedia of American Comics*. After working at the Max Fleischer Studio as a trainee animator in 1934, Kane entered the comic-book field in 1936 with "Hiram Hick," a humorous serial that ran in *Wow!* The short-lived magazine was edited by Jerry Iger, who invited the young cartoonist to join the Eisner-Iger studio when it was formed in 1937.

Kane's first sales to the company that would become DC Comics were humorous one- and two-page strips, followed by *Rusty and his Pals*, an adventure strip which began in *Adventure Comics* #26 (May 38), inspired by Milton Caniff's work. Kane once listed Caniff, along with Alex Raymond and Billy DeBeck, as his



A meeting of the creators: Superman co-creator Joe Shuster (left) and Kane (right) at a convention in the 1970s.

major influences.

The scripts for these adventurous stories were provided by Kane's neighbor Bill Finger, who was two years older than the artist and was working as a shoe salesman. The duo's other work included soldier of fortune Clip Carson for *Action Comics* (beginning in #14, Jul 39) and the 1939 creation of Batman for *Detective Comics*.

Batman's beginnings. Inspired by the silent film *The Bat* and its sequel *The*

Bat Whispers, as well as the technical drawings of Leonardo da Vinci of a flying apparatus known as an ornithopter and Douglas Fairbanks' silent film adventures as Zorro, Batman made his debut in *Detective Comics* #27 (May 39), less than a year after Superman began, in *Action Comics* #1 (Jun 38).

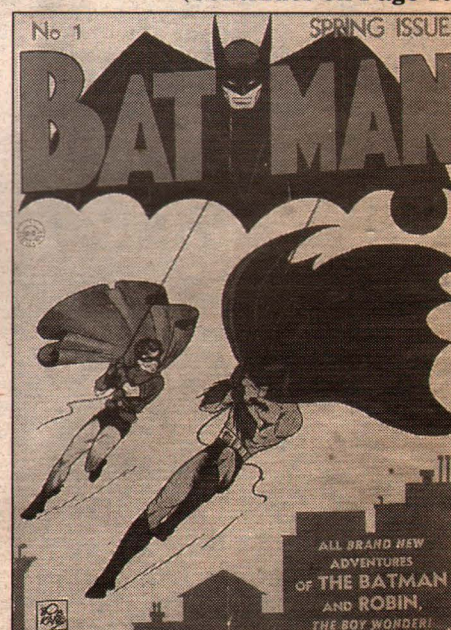
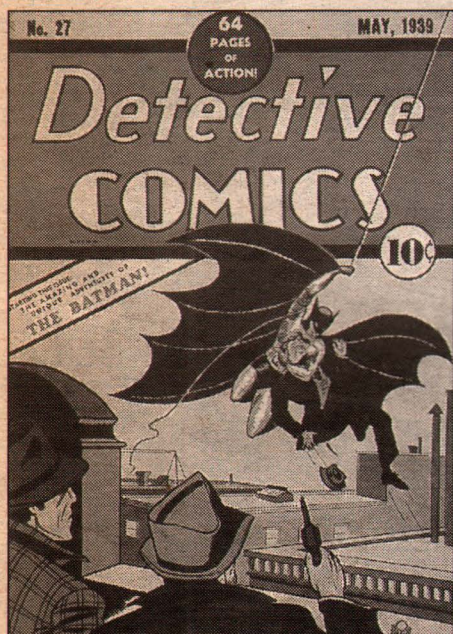
As the feature grew in popularity, Kane opened his own studio to handle the workload. In addition to Finger, the studio was home to artists Jerry Robinson, George Roussos, Charlie Paris, Jack

Burnley, Lew Schwartz, and Sheldon Moldoff.

With the passage of time, the creative credits for such Batman standards as Robin, The Joker, Catwoman, and The Penguin have become fuzzy, with Kane often downplaying the contributions of his collaborators; however, Kane was on hand for the introduction of most of the major elements of the Batman mythos. Kane said in one interview that Robin grew out of his own boyhood dreams of being an adventuring hero.

Kane's credits. According to *The Comic Book Heroes* by Gerard Jones and Will Jacobs, when Superman creators Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster brought suit against DC in 1948 to regain the rights to their creation, they asked Kane to join them, but the company gave Kane a contract entitling him to "a legal and financial portion of his creations." This resulted in Kane's signature appearing on every Batman story until the mid-1960s, when

(Continues on Page 10)



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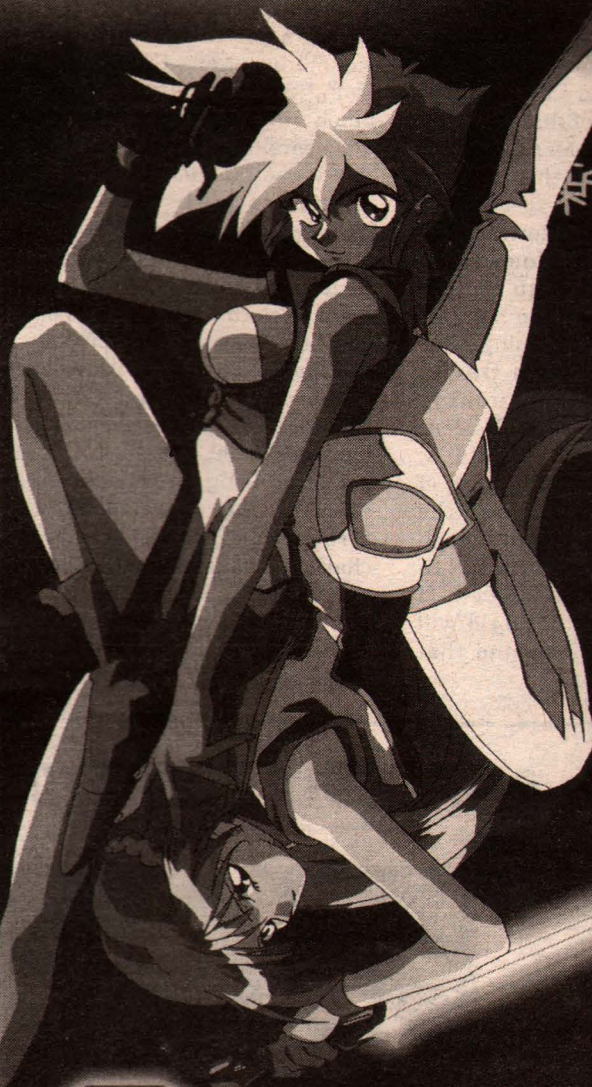
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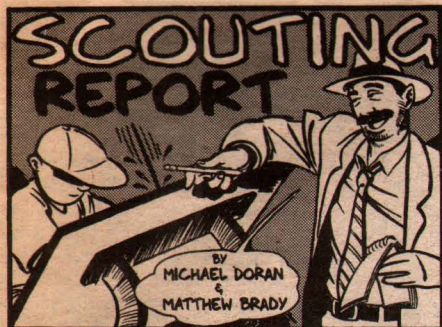
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X-Men shakeups settle down. The creative swinging door of Marvel's core X-Men mutant titles has finally swung open after the past several months, which saw each principal *Uncanny X-Men* and *X-Men* creator announce their departure from those titles. The most recent departure was *Uncanny X-Men* penciller **Chris Bachalo** who announced that issue #365 (Dec) will be his last as that series' regular artist.

Although he did not reveal the details of his next project, Bachalo, who described his exit from *Uncanny* as "amiable," said he decided "to head in a different direction on another project with a prominent writer I haven't worked with before."

Following a six-issue guest-pencilling stint by **Alan Davis** on *X-Men* #85 through #90, **Brandon Peterson** will take over as the title's first regular penciller since the departure of **Carlos Pacheco**. Current *Uncanny X-Men* inker

'X-Men' x-its and entrances, DC exclusives, and 'Savage Dragon' acceleration

Tim Townsend will make the move to the junior *X-Men* title to join Peterson with #91.

"I'm thrilled about joining the X-Men team, especially since it means working with a wonderful talent like Tim," said Peterson. "I had a brief run on *Uncanny* at the beginning of my career years ago, and now I feel I'm a better creator. I really want to show what I can do with these characters and would like to be on the series as long as Marvel will have me. I have some knowledge of storylines and events coming up and I can see this is a great time to be part of things."

Peterson will get an X-Men warm-up of sorts before beginning that assignment, since he's scheduled to pencil a three-issue Magneto limited series set to begin in March. Written by **Joe Pruett** (best known for his work with Caliber Comics) and inked by **Batt**, the mini-series will follow up on the upcoming "War of Magneto" (plotted by **Alan Davis**) winter crossover storyline running through *Uncanny X-Men* and *X-Men*. Though keeping a lid on the details, Pruett promised the series will mark of the return of the real Magneto to the Marvel universe. "Not the wimpy Joseph that's been strolling around in the X-titles the past few years," said Pruett. "I guarantee by series' end, the world will know the true name of fear, and that name is Magneto!"



More DC exclusives. Following the recent announcement that *Superboy* writer and inker **Karl Kesel** had signed an exclusive contract with DC, the comics publisher recently announced that both *Hitman* penciller **John McCre**a and *Jack Kirby's Orion of the New Gods* writer and artist **Walter Simonson** have also signed exclusive contracts.

"The contract allows me to concentrate on producing the work without worrying where the work is coming from," McCre said. "I've been pretty much only working at DC for the past few years, and Garth's already gone exclusive, so this just seems like the natural thing to do." In addition to pencilling *Hitman*, McCre will also provide the art for the upcoming Vertigo mini-series *Cruel and Unusual*, set for release in April. (See this week's *Mass o' Media* for additional news on that project.)

Simonson's exclusivity will allow him to focus on writing and illustrating *Jack Kirby's Orion of the New Gods*, which launches in '99, as well. "DC is giving me a shot at doing a regular monthly series with the only characters in the mainstream comics that I haven't had a chance to work with what I really, really want to do," Simonson said. "And, for me, a monthly series is a full month's worth of work, so an exclusive contract was a good idea, and DC was game."

Simonson's contract also includes the previously reported 23 new story pages for the upcoming *Manhunter* collection that will reprint the award-winning backup series written by the late **Archie Goodwin**.

DC also confirmed that **Garth Ennis**, **Tom McCraw**, and **Howard Porter** have renewed their exclusive DC contracts through next year.

'Astro City' returns. **Kurt Busiek's** *Astro City* fans will have an extra reason to be jolly next month, when the long-delayed *Astro City* #15 hits shelves. Solicitations for issue #16 have been canceled and the issue will be resolicited for January. Issue #17 will follow in March and, barring any further delays, the series should be monthly thereafter.

Savage Dragon speeds up. Despite recently becoming the writer of *Aquaman*, *Wolverine*, and the upcoming *Nova* series, **Erik Larsen** will crank up the frequency of his *Savage Dragon* series beginning in the summer.

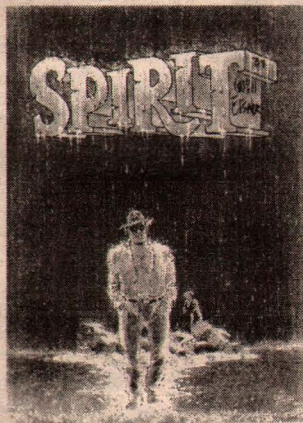
According to Larsen, *Savage Dragon* #62-#66 will ship every three weeks, beginning in early June and ending in late August. "I want to put out a couple extra issues of *Savage Dragon*, because I real-

(Continues on Page 10)

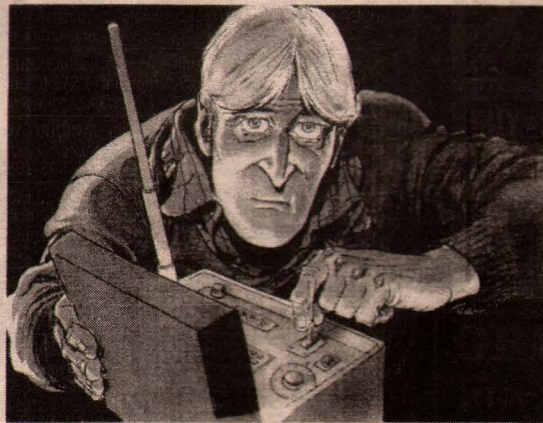
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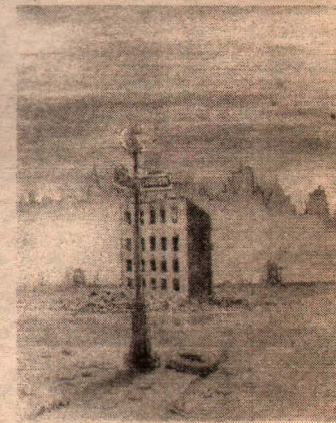
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SCOUTING

(From Page 8)

ly want to have #100 come out on the 10th anniversary of the publication of #1," Larsen explained. "At this point, if I continued as monthly, #98 would come out that month, so I had to get ahead, and the 'help' of a couple issues that are being re-worked from older material made it possible."

The older material to which Larsen refers is a redone version of his original *Savage Dragon* material from the fanzine *Graphic Fantasy*, which will make up the bulk of #63 and #65. "At this point, those issues have been completely re-pencilled and scripted," Larsen commented. "It's just a matter of inking them. There have been some serious revisions here but they've worked out rather well, actually."

One final *Savage Dragon* note: The previously announced *Savage Dragon/Superman* team-up that was originally supposed to hit shelves as part of Superman's 60th anniversary this past summer has been indefinitely delayed. According to Larsen, the project is still on the books, and he will at least be writing the *Savage Dragon/Superman* side of the crossover, but it is still anyone's guess as to when fans will see it.

The Tenth' turns to mini-series. While Tony McDaniel's series *The Tenth* has been cooking along with respectable sales,

McDaniel recently announced that he wants to "shake things up" with the series and spin it so it better matches today's volatile marketplace. While still maintaining its monthly status, McDaniel confirmed that upcoming issues of *The Tenth* will follow a mini-series format, with each four-issue arc having its own title and numbering.

To start the new format, the series will restart shortly with a new #1, kicking off a new arc entitled "The Dark Embrace," written by **Scott Lobdell** and illustrated by McDaniel. Following Lobdell's arc, Daniel will return to writing and illustrating future mini-series.

Sam and Twitch are Jinxed. Writer/artist **Brian Bendis** (*Jinx*) recently announced that he will be writing and laying out the upcoming *Sam & Twitch* series, starring the two former cops from the pages of *Spawn*.

According to Bendis, his gritty, noir-esque, no-nonsense writing style is a perfect match for the new series, which he says will be a "cool cinematic noir series." "*Jinx* fans will like this because now on top of the ongoing *Torso*, there will be a monthly Bendis crime comic," the creator said. Bendis also mentioned that he and McFarlane are developing future projects. An artist for the series, which is looking at a mid-1999 debut, has not yet been named.

KANE

(From Page 6)

he left comics to work in animation, involved in the creation of such characters as Courageous Cat, Minute Mouse, and Cool McCool.

Continued Batting. Kane's association with The Caped Crusader didn't end then. In the 1970s and '80s, he produced a series of lithographs and prints featuring The Dynamic Duo and their foes. Kane presented one featuring The Joker to actor Jack Nicholson, who played the villain in 1989's *Batman*.

When the film was in development, Kane served as a consultant. In his autobiography, *Batman & Me*, Kane wrote that he produced a bible for the production so that the creative team wouldn't be influenced by the '60s TV show. He added that he went over an early draft of writer Sam Hamm's script and pointed out several problems. Finally, Kane wrote that he, like most Batman fans, didn't agree with director Tim Burton's choice of Michael Keaton to play Batman. "He was far from the classically handsome and debonair image of a young Cary Grant or Robert Wagner I had envisioned for Bruce Wayne," Kane wrote. Only after being shown Keaton's dramatic work in *Clean and Sober* did Kane accept the casting choice.

Both Kane and his wife, actress Elizabeth Sanders, had originally been slated for roles in the first film. Kane was sched-

uled to be the artist who provided a sketch of the mysterious Batman for the Gotham City newspaper (the sketch did have his signature on it in the film), and his wife was to have a small role in the film's opening sequence. Both roles were never filmed, due to time constraints in Kane's case and a problem with the British actors' union in his wife's. Sanders did make appearances as a gossip columnist in the later *Batman* films.

A comics legacy. After his death, DC President and Editor in Chief Jenette Kahn said, "Bob Kane is a giant in the field of popular culture, one of a handful of people who launched the comic-book industry and who gave the world a group of characters so colorful and inventive that they continue to captivate every new generation. Bob will be greatly missed, but he has left a legacy that will keep his memory alive."

Kane is survived by his wife; a daughter, Deborah Majeski of New Jersey; a grandson, Matthew Alderman; and Kane's sister, Doris Atlas of New York.

Private services were held at Mt. Sinai Mortuary in Burbank, Calif., Nov. 6, 1998. In lieu of flowers, the family has requested donations be made to Feed the Children, the Make a Wish Foundation, the Westside Children's Center (Santa Monica, Calif.), the Bay Area Youth Center (Hayward, Calif.), or any other agency providing services to hungry, homeless, abused, or abandoned children.

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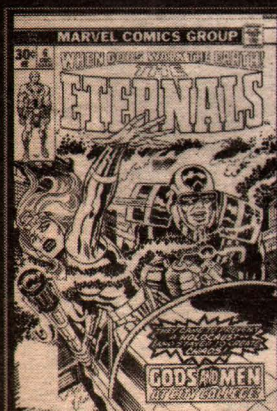
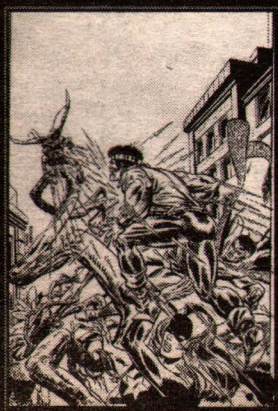
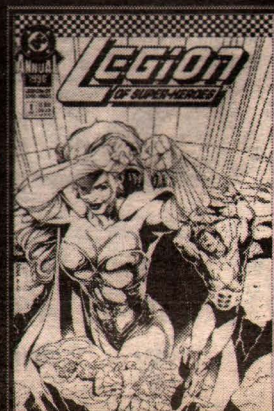
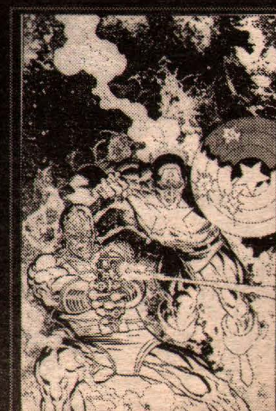
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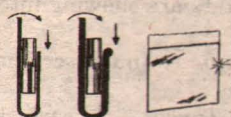
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775RS	7 3/4 x 10 1/8	Silver/Gold (shorter to fit boxes)	15.00 (304)	48 (244)	199 (204)
775R	7 3/4 x 10 1/2	Silver/Gold Comics - 1950's-70's	16.75 (334)	55 (274)	240 (244)
800R	8 x 11	Gold Age Comics - 1940's-50's	17.75 (364)	59 (294)	255 (254)
825R	8 1/4 x 11	Super Gold Age Comics	18.50 (374)	61 (304)	265 (264)
875R	8 3/4 x 11	Large Comics, Mag. & Letter	20.25 (404)	65 (324)	290 (294)
900R	9 x 12	Standard Magazines	24.50 (494)	81 (404)	350 (354)
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775M	7 3/4 x 10 3/4	Silver/Gold Comics - 1950's-70's		14 (144)	102 (104)
800M	8 x 10 3/4	Gold Age Comics - 1940's-50's		15 (154)	106 (114)
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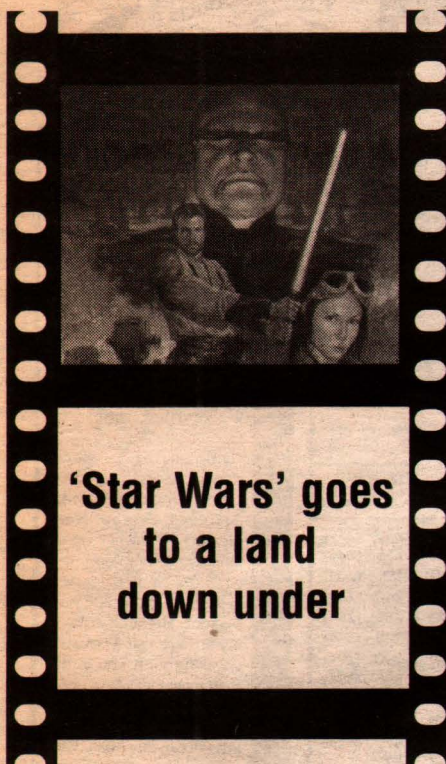
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'Star Wars' in Oz. Lucasfilm and Fox Studios Australia recently announced that the next two *Star Wars* prequels will be filmed in Australia.

According to Lucas, the next two films in the series will include the story of how Anakin Skywalker embraced the dark side of The Force and became Darth Vader.

In addition, Lucas confirmed that many of the characters in the two new movies will be completely digital, much like Jabba the Hutt in the special edition of *A New Hope*, something that will help the films come in at their projected budgets of \$120 million each.

The as-yet-untitled Episode II is expected to begin shooting in April 2000, while Episode III should go in front of the cameras some time in 2003.

In further *Star Wars* news, *Variety* recently confirmed that Nintendo of America has landed the videogame license for the first of the *Star Wars* prequels, *The Phantom Menace*, beating competition from Sony. The deal will allow Nintendo and LucasArts Entertainment to co-create *Phantom Menace* games for the N64, Nintendo's 3-D video game player, and upcoming color Gameboy platforms. The first game will be introduced in May, in conjunction with the release of the movie.

The agreement also includes the licensing for *Star Wars: Rogue Squadron*, a new Nintendo 64 game based on the comics series of the same name from

Dark Horse that will be released Dec. 7.

Canton's comics commitments. According to Rob Worley's Comics2Film website (www.comics2film.com) producer Mark Canton is overseeing several DC-based properties including:

- **Jonah Hex** — A possible television series for the WB network. Akiva Goldsman (*Lost in Space*) is attached as writer.

- **Camelot 3000** — A script is being written by Ethan Reiff and Cyrus Voris (*Brimstone*).

- **House of Secrets** — The latest script treatment has been turned in by Robert Zappia (*Halloween: H20*).

- **Pride and Joy** — Based on the Vertigo mini-series by Garth Ennis and John Higgins, the project is in the early stages, but writers are showing interest.

- **Books of Magic** — In the scripting stage.

- **The Human Target** — In early development.

Again, all projects are far from the screen at this point. Stay tuned for more information.

'Ghosting' gets writers. According to *The Hollywood Reporter*, Stephen Susco and John Weidner are currently writing the script for Dimension Films' *Ghosting*, based on the yet-to-be-published comic book from Scott Rosenberg's Platinum Studios.

According to Rosenberg, who will also

serve as the project's producer, the project is on the fast track to production.

Aimed directly at the *Scream* market, *Ghosting* is about a college tradition that has taken the place of hazing on a fictional collegiate campus. "The idea is to scare pledges with their deepest, darkest fears," Weidner said. "Of course, something goes horribly wrong in one ghosting, and a pledge who gets killed now haunts that campus."

'Mutant Chronicles' on the move again. Former role-playing game, short-lived comics series, and formerly stalled movie project *Mutant Chronicles* appears to be moving toward the screen again. According to *Variety*, Helkon Media, a German media interest, will co-produce the film with the Luxembourg-based Carousel Films. The reported budget for the film is \$35 million.

Hughes brothers go to Hell. From *Hell*, the movie based on the Alan Moore-written mini-series telling the story of and Moore's conclusions concerning the Jack the Ripper murders has found a home at Fox. According to *The Hollywood Reporter*, both New Line and Miramax had previously shown interest in the project. Allen and Albert Hughes (*Dead Presidents*) are still slated to direct. As previously reported in *Mass o' Media*, Moore has no connection with the film version of *From Hell*, aside from creator credit.

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Letters intended for publication should be addressed to *Oh, So?*, *Comics Buyer's Guide*, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990. It is not possible to publish all letters received, and I cannot reply to letters which we do not print.

Letters will be edited and may be cut due to length and other considerations. Responses to *Oh, So?* will be in first person, and — unless otherwise identified — will be by Maggie Thompson. Other respondents are signified by their initials:

JJM: Managing Editor John Jackson Miller

BWF: Projects Editor Brent Frankenhoff

JG: Associate Editor Joyce Greenholdt

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Manuscripts and cartoons should only be sent by mail to Maggie Thompson, *Comics Buyer's Guide*, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990; by fax to Maggie Thompson at (715) 445-4087; or by e-mail to pitchcbg@krause.com. However, no responsibility is stated or implied for unsolicited manuscripts, nor can any guarantee be given when a specific submission will appear in print. Manuscripts submitted on paper should be typewritten and double-spaced and contain absolutely no words in all capital letters. Please indent for paragraphs. Manuscripts submitted by electronic mail should be sent as basic e-mail text. When sending cartoons or photographs in paper form, please do not send originals. Send stats, veloxes, copies, or photocopies. Return of art cannot be guaranteed. When sending graphics via computer, inquire by e-mail first about file formats before sending files.

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The editorial department does not handle subscription and advertising questions. Check page 4 for appropriate contact information. The best way to get in touch with us is by e-mail, fax, mail, and phone (in that order).

Michael Skidmore

3631 W. Eddy

Chicago, IL 60618

Finally got around to checking out collectit.net — pretty nice.

I had a few questions and possible suggestions about using the classifieds — just my opinions, so I hope I won't offend anyone. Unless it is a list someone is trying to get people to order, unless there is a phone number or an e-mail address, I won't bother trying. In this day of e-mail and 10¢ phone calls (5¢ on Sundays), why would I use a 32¢ stamp just to find out if someone has a \$5 or less comic book available? By the time you write and inquire and they write and reply and you send them a check, weeks can pass.

I guess some people don't want to be bothered at home, but that is where an answering machine or voice mail comes in: a cheap way to screen your calls. There are a lot of ads in your classifieds I could help people out with, but I'm not going to go through the trouble of writing them for something I might only get a few dollars for.

I try to, just out of courtesy for someone taking the time to answer my ads, answer every inquiry that comes my way. I might have missed one or two by writing down a number and losing it and, when I was hit by a flood last year, I lost a lot of numbers and lists I was supposed to send people, but, aside from that, I will always an-

swer people.

The best part, if you answer, is that a lot of times you find something else that they need, or something you might need, and you talk to some very cool people. There was an ad from someone here in Chicago: I left a few messages, but the person never bothered to call back, even though his ad kept popping up every couple of months, and it is just a local call for him to call me.

Another example is someone who has had quite a few ads the last couple of years in your classifieds. Just looking at his wants, I probably have 100 or 200 comic books he wants, and, since I sell most of mine at about 25% of guide, I thought I would hear from him. I called and left two messages, and, after seeing more of his ads, sent a list of everything I had for sale. Never got a reply, though I keep seeing the same ads in the classifieds.

And of course, thanks again for the great free ads that subscribers get. But they can let me realize how fast time is flying by, when I look in the envelope I keep the forms in and find that I have amassed 15 or 16: another four months of my life gone by.

[There are numbers of ways to use CBG and its ads and services, and it's great that you're enjoying the classifieds. I can understand circumstances in which people don't want to use the phone — whether they're hard of hearing or simply need to keep their home

line free. But those not bound by those limitations can consider what you're saying.

Now that it's up and running, CBG's auction site is something you might enjoy looking at. I've been examining the site and find intriguing items I want to check out. The second day it was online, I found most activity in "Coins & Currency" and "Sports Cards & Memorabilia" categories, with "Collectibles" a close third. But I've only begun to look; we've got a huge number of readers who have computer capability, and I'd like to know what folks think.]

Bobb Lynes

Box 501

South Pasadena, CA 91031

Heroes come in all shapes, sizes and colors. Heroines, too. Recently (Oct. 22-24, 1998, to be exact), while attending the annual friends of Old-Time Radio Convention in Newark, N.J., along with hundreds of other fans, I witnessed a truly heart-warming example of heroism in its most idealistic form. It was, I'm sure based on dedication, talent, and just pure love and kindness.

Maggie, you have spent many years entertaining and enlightening us fans to the joys of reading (and listening to radio) and for your selfless efforts will never be thanked enough. I take this time and place to thank you very much.

Fellow readers of CBG, I and my

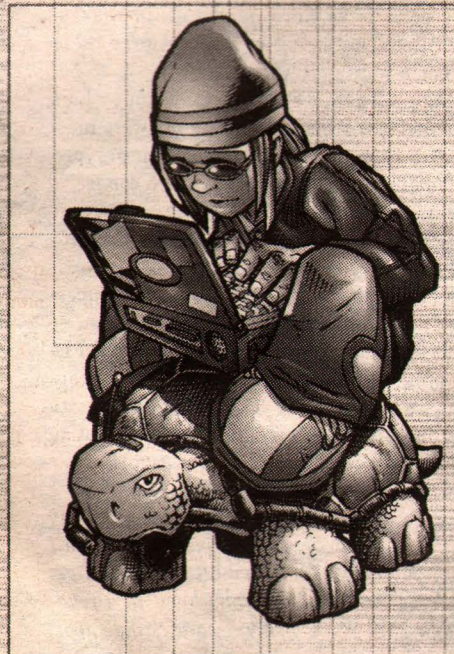
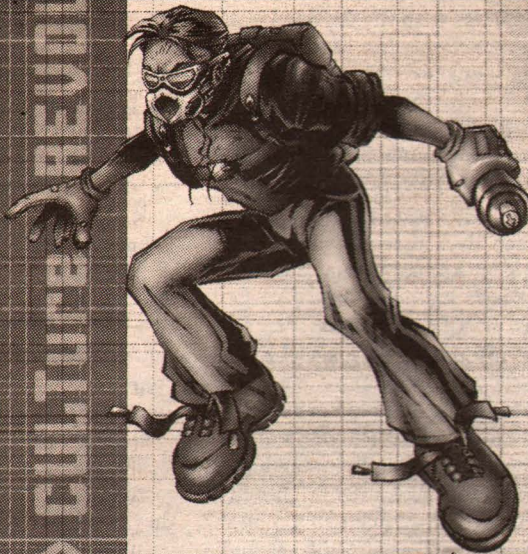
(Continues on Page 16)

For Art's Sake

By Chris Smigiano



lifestyle > culture > revolution



...then all of a sudden
you look up from what you're
doing and you realize,
"I'm part of that lifeSTYLE.
I makeup that CULTure.
Something is going on here."
the 'evolution' of comics.

"these things are pretty cool!"

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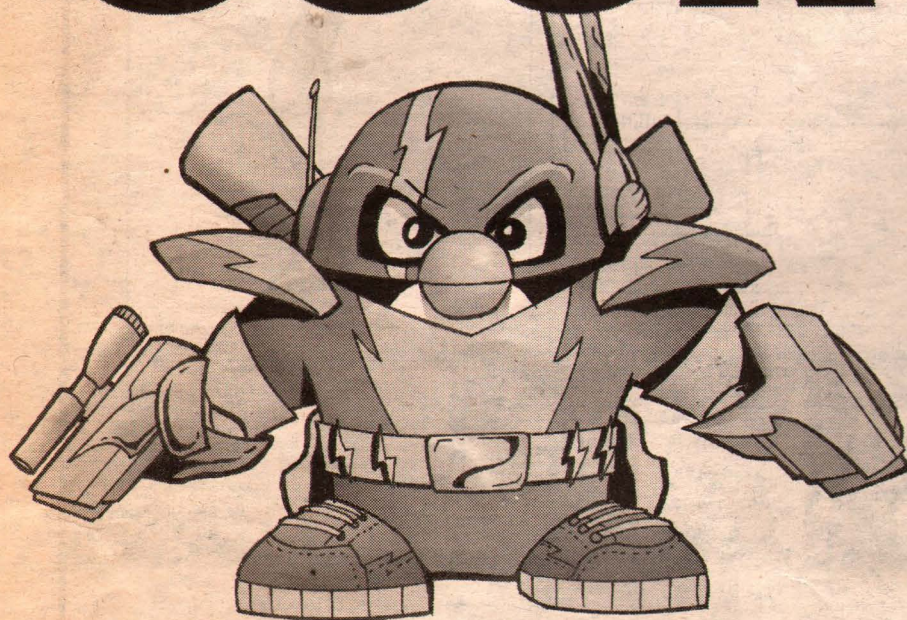


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Oh, So?

From
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best friend, Barbara Watkins, went to Newark to see (and hear) many of our favorite OTR people re-create some of their roles in staged presentations of shows from the Golden Age of radio. We were very honored to be allowed to appear in a couple of them ourselves. What a kick!

One of the highlights was *The Adventures of Superman*, the five-chapter conclusion of the "Atom-Man" series. Two actors from the original cast (from 53 years ago!) were in this re-creation: Jackson Beck (narrator and Perry White) and Mason Adams (Atom Man and Henderson). Others included: Earl George, Dick Beals (Jimmy Olsen), and veteran announcer George Ansbro as the last son of Krypton. Sound effects were by geniuses Bob Mott and Ray Erlenborn. (Yes, Bob and Ray!)

The re-creation was continued over a three-day period, concluding at the Saturday-night banquet. Producer-director Anthony Tollin arrived with scripts (enlarged micro-film copies) almost impossible to read. As a result, the first and second days were nearly disastrous — fluffed lines, missed cues, etc. But pros these gentlemen were — it worked.

Maggie Thompson was set to play "Lois Lane" and saw the shape the scripts were in — so, faster than a speeding bullet, she re-typed the remaining chapters, those were copied — and the shows went on.

Jackson Beck came alive and was magnificent! Maggie, you are a real-life wonder woman — and a "fine" Lois Lane! You saved Superman. It is a genuine pleasure knowing you — and your daughter and brother — Don must be very proud of you. Here's to many more years of readin' them funny books and listenin' to "The Furniture That Talks." Come on out to California for SPERDVAC's convention!

[Actually, I've been feeling more and more guilty, because my daughter, Valerie, and my brother, Paul Curtis, worked just as hard as I did on the project. But I got all the glory, I got (thanks to the Lois Lane role) to sit in a read-through with some of my broadcasting favorites, and I got several rounds of applause to boost my ego.]

I was so consumed with the heady rush, I completely forgot to do so much as take the time to introduce Valerie and Paul to the rest of the cast. So much for my wonderfulness. Blush.

The big convention of The Society to Preserve and Encourage Radio Drama, Variety and Comedy is Nov. 13-15 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, 5985 W. Century Blvd., Los Angeles, CA, and the festivities **Friday** afternoon are actually **free** to all. It's a great opportunity to see what the fuss is about. There's a charge for the remainder of the event; for more details call (562) 947-9800.]

Andy Lee

60 Thoreau St., Suite 287
Concord, MA 01742

I read your article on Primate Promotion's Boston Comic Book Spectacular. Primate Promotions has, indeed, filled a void left over by the collapse of Great Eastern, and I'm grateful

to them, but the truly big con is gone from the Northeast.

The last really big con in the Northeast was several years ago. After Great Eastern's empire collapsed, nobody has stepped in to run the really big show: the kind of place where you can see Stan Lee, Jim Lee, James Robinson, or Jeff Smith. The kind of place where you can see the humongous DC booth, with its wall of video monitors, and Marvel characters running around having their pictures taken with kids. The Big Apple Con and Boston Comic Book Spectacular are great places to buy comics, toys, and artwork, but they have the same regional dealers and guests. Please don't get me wrong. I'm grateful for them but I just don't understand why somebody hasn't stepped in to attempt a big event.

The best place to meet creators is a mom-and-pop family convention called the Ramapo Con, which has about 100 creators from the Golden Age to the present. There are more creators there than attendees. The Trilogy Tour, the cream of the crop for small-press comics, didn't even have a Northeast stop.

I'd really like some feedback from the fan community. If there were a big convention on the order of, say, 1/2 or 1/4 the scale of Chicago, would people go?

I can't understand how New York City, the home of Marvel and DC, can't sustain a big convention. Perhaps all the East Coast creators just look forward to a San Diego vacation every summer, but it seems to me that someone should step in. Here's the battle cry: It's not "Avengers assemble!" It's put on a big show, and "We will go!"

Come on, everybody, repeat after me: "We will go!"

Thanks. I'm putting away my soapbox now.

Robert Pickering

7720 Penn Avenue S., #133
Richfield, MN 55423

Tonight I was watching a *M*A*S*H* episode in which Father Mulcahey is preparing the camp for a visiting cardinal and is attempting to sidetrack the camp from its regular bouts of gambling and drinking until after the visit. When Mulcahey is unable to stop the acts of debauchery, he becomes angry. Mulcahey is angry because he is afraid the cardinal will be disappointed with him and the lack of influence he has been able to have with the camp.

Meanwhile, Hawkeye struggles to tell a patient who is dying with leukemia about the fatal disease, for which there is no cure. The soldier, after learning about his disease, is more worried about a wounded buddy than his own failing health. In a heartwarming sermon at the end of the show, Mulcahey admits his selfish actions. How can a man worry about getting a pat on the back, while another man ignores his own fatal disease to care for a friend?

This reminded me of my own selfish or self-absorbed actions. I work for the Head Start program in St. Paul. For those of you who don't know, Head Start is a poverty program that provides comprehensive social services and child care for low-income families with children 3 to 5 years old. One of the services we offer our families is a book-lending library. Children are able to check out books to take home and have their parents read with them.

In my opinion, this is one of the best serv-

es we offer our families. In addition to getting parents involved with their child's education at a very early level, the program also helps parents with their own literacy skills. Many of our families speak English as a second language or don't speak English at all. Unfortunately, the funding for this part of the program is very little. It's embarrassing to think that I would spend my time and money trying to complete a run on my favorite title while I work for a program serving parents who could never afford \$1.99 to buy a comic book for their child.

Do you know of any comic books that would be appropriate for young children? The obvious Disney and Archie comics come to mind, but are there others? For Christmas this year I want to give a gift that I grew up loving to these kids and their older siblings. If any dealers or publishers have any reading copies of comics that they would like to sell, I can be reached at:

Robert Pickering
Ramsey Action Programs, Inc.
450 Syndicate Street N., Suite 300
St. Paul, MN 55104
(651) 603-5858 (phone)
(651) 603-5990 (fax)

rpickering@ramseyactionprograms.org

Our program serves over 1,500 families, so I could use help. Donations can be sent to the above address, attention Head Start Literacy Program. Our program is a 501(c)3 corporation, and we can provide a receipt to donors who need it for tax purposes.

[JG: Titles that immediately sprang to mind are **Akiko** from Sirius Entertainment and **Bone** from Cartoon Books. Both are black-and-white series, with early issues available in trade paperback form and both should be enjoyable for both kids and parents to read. In addition, Viz Comics' translations of the **Dragonball** and **Pokémon** comics from Japan might also be a good choice, since kids may already have seen the animated versions of both series, which are being shown in the U.S. And I'm sure that our readers can recommend more titles appropriate for that age group, as well.]

Dennis Kininger

President, Organized Readers of Comics Associated

P.O. Box 206
1307 Utica St.
Oriskany, NY 13424

I'd like to extend an open note of thanks to the comics professionals who have so kindly given of their time to provide a contribution to Organized Readers of Comics Associated's first fund-raising auction. While donations have been coming in at a slower pace than we'd hoped for, ORCA has received several great items, and things look good for a successful auction. ORCA is proud to report a donation from Norm Breyfogle of a double page of absolutely stunning, original Batman artwork. Garth Ennis has donated a large stack of his autographed comics and a complete script to *Hitman One Million*, also autographed. Those great guys at DC Comics, Paul Levitz and Rich Markow, to name just two, have come through with terrific donations of their own.

As I write this, ORCA is still accepting donations from any participants wishing to help ORCA meet its goals in 1999 of continuing to promote the hobby of reading and collecting comic books. The industry won't work its way

out of its collective slump of the past five or six years with toy deals, trading-card deals, or pointless variant covers. The industry needs new readers and consumers of its product. Young readers aren't going to start on comics that are practically priced out of the range of their limited funds, and older readers are going to be leaving the hobby that seems fixated on the next big event instead of telling consistent quality stories.

ORCA isn't out to set the comics industry on its ear. We just want it to get off its keister and realize that it isn't going to survive without more support from the fans. ORCA has worked for more than five years to ensure that potential comics fans without easy access to a comics store are able to enjoy a few comics of their own. ORCA wants the industry to realize that fans are out there and that we have a voice that deserves to be listened to. If you'd like to help ORCA continue in its efforts to increase awareness of the comic book industry, feel free to forward any contributions to the address above or our club address: P.O. Box 1743, Utica, NY 13503.

I'd like to close by extending a last thank you to Garth, Norm, and the great guys at DC. All your donations were greatly appreciated, and you have ORCA's biggest thanks for helping what should be a good event become an even better one.

Bill Perry
81 Beatrice Ave.
West Islip, NY 11795

I am mad!

The recent *Wolverine* misprint is the cause. The slur did not make sense, so it did not offend, but I do feel sorry for the person who let it slip through.

The reason I am so hot is that I have been buying *Wolverine* and many other comics at the same shop for several years now. My comic books are pulled and placed in reserve until I pick them up. When I recently went to the shop, lo and behold, no *Wolverine* in my \$31 purchase.

If I had not seen a tiny little article in the local newspaper saying that this comic book had been recalled, I would not have even known it was released. I asked my retailer, who I thought was a friend, about the issue, and he gave me a song and a dance. He was trying to make more money off a comic book I have been purchasing for several years.

I finally got the comic book but left with a bad taste in my mouth. I have a couple of questions for your readers. How many retailers did this to their customers? Be honest. How many consumers did this happen to, and what should I do? Should I continue to spend my money at this shop or should I go somewhere else?

What are your comments on this?

[Without more information than appeared in CBG's news story and your letter, I'd say it would have been nice had the retailer told you without your having to ask.

However, you close by indicating that you were able to get the item, apparently under the conditions you wanted. Given that — and the unusual circumstances — it would probably be in everyone's best interests to give the retailer a break, don't you think? Many retailers across the country found themselves in an awkward

(Continues on Page 18)

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A special thanks to Greg Theakston who provided this line art version of Dell Four Color #254.

Happy holidays

This year's Christmas issue takes a fond look back at the Golden Age and, in keeping with a holiday theme, follows a Star(man) with a retrospective on the super-hero's Golden Age adventures and a look ahead at what writer James Robinson has planned for next year.

And, our free quarterly convention calendar supplement will help you make a list and check it twice for the shows you want to attend next year.

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ISSUE #1310 • Dec. 25, 1998 Cover Date
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Oh, So?

From
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situation and unsure how to respond, given additional pressure to return the material altogether.

JJM: We can't tell from your letter — Was your retailer refusing to sell the comic book to you at cover price or refusing to sell the comic book to you?

If he was refusing to sell it, period, that's understandable. It's true that Marvel's request that retailers withdraw the issue from circulation was only a request, but it's conceivable his distributor field rep might have been more forceful on the matter.

If he was pulling it from subscriber files in order to mark it up and offer it for general sale, that's something else — something a retailer shouldn't do on any comic book, whether it's a misprinted issue or *Superman* #75.

It's tough to speak in absolutes on this one. The issue is, certainly, a seminal event in the computerization of comics — a case of mechanical error fundamentally altering the writer's words in the worst way. That's the argument we, as a journalistic enterprise, have for having a copy — and it may be elitist to say that general collectors wouldn't be interested for the same reasons.

Speculators may be disappointed in the long-term, however: Unlike market tests, mechanical errors aren't big draws. Our price guide values both the *Death: The High Cost of Living* #3 issues the same — the correct one and the one with the pages out of order — and for that reason the error copy may actually be less desirable, since it's a pain to read. And does anybody out there remember the case in which a Marvel comic book shipped with a DC label? It's pure trivia now — and the issue in question isn't worth more than the issues which preceded and followed it.]

Todd Wilson

5800 Rossetter Rd., Apt. 15
Albany, OH 45710

In issue #1302 I was surprised to read a letter by Chuck LaChance and the problems he has been having. I guess I didn't realize how good I have it.

If I want something added to my pull, all I have to do is e-mail the owner of the comics store where I have a pull account, which cost me a one-time fee to start. If it's found in *Previews*, it can be ordered for me, and I have to travel about 90 miles one-way because there are no comics stores near where I live. Even if there were, I would still travel the 90 miles, because I am treated so well. I only get there twice a month and this is fine with the owner.

In less than a year my wife and I are going to move to Louisville, and now I wonder — can I find a good store that will give me the same good service? Where I shop now, there is no minimum order for a pull and I can get those hard-to-find comics like *Chronos* or *Hellblazer*. I feel that by getting what the customer wants and not charging an exorbitant fee you will have customer loyalty.

I am sorry that LaChance has to use mail order for some issues and go through the rack

for the rest. And I hope that, when we move, I won't have to go through what you're experiencing. Perhaps *CBG* can recommend a good store in Louisville. I would like to finish by telling your readers where I shop now, so if any one out there is having problems and happens to live close by: It's Comic Shop Plus in Newark and Pataskala, Ohio. The owner is Garry Mockus; he's more of a friend than just some place where I get my comics at.

And, owners of comics stores out there: Order what the customers want and they will probably browse more and buy more. I also get a 10% discount on my pull.

[Shop-owners will probably want to get in touch with **you**. Let's see what happens.]

Lee Solomon

2839 Marlbank

Sterling Heights, MI 48310

Batman. Superman: The Movie. The Mask. Men in Black. None of them will be able to hold a candle to what I am sure will be the most anticipated and most successful of all comic-book movies in the history of Hollywood: *Archie!*

In the state my mind was in after listening to "Sugar, Sugar" over and over for several hours, I was able to assemble the perfect cast for the *Archie* film:

Austin O'Brien (*Last Action Hero, Promised Land*) as Archie; Ben Gould (Nicky Farina on *Saved by the Bell: The New Class*) as Jughead; Joshua Jackson (Pacey on *Dawson's Creek*) as Reggie; Bill Kirkenbauer (*Just the Ten of Us*) as Mr. Weatherbee; and — my personal favorites, the ones I will wait in line to see on the silver screen — Marne Patterson (*Something So Right*) as Betty; Megan Parlen (*Hang Time*) as Veronica; Jessica Bowman (*Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*) as Cheryl Blossom; and, as Josie and the Pussycats: Nikki Cox (*Unhappily Ever After*) as Josie, Sarati Lancaster (*Saved by the Bell: The New Class*) as Melodi, and Bianca Lawson (Kendra on *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*, Megan Jones on *Saved by the Bell*, Steve Harvey Show) as Valerie. Add a special guest appearance by Melissa Joan Hart as Sabrina the Teenage Witch and Amanda Oynes (*All That*) as Li'l Jinx, and you have the ultimate *Archie* cast wish list.

Richard M. Brown

2326 Cabot

Detroit, MI 48209

"Mr. Silver Age" is right! There were disasters in the DC universe. Like Superman lost for 100 years, the Kents had a criminal foster son, etc.

Try these strange but trues:

- The Legion of Super-Heroes was murdered by a future Mr. Mxyzptlk. (They got their lives back when Superboy tricked him into saying his name backwards.)

- The Thunderbolt once stopped Krypton from exploding, kept Martian Manhunter from reaching Earth, and replaced the Justice League with criminals by rewriting the past. (An evil Johnny Thunder planned all this.)

- We still have never had The Joker's real identity in the comic books — no matter what Jack Nicholson's movie character was called.

- Superman lived to be a million years old but got so old he eventually returned to our time — at the age he left!

[Anyone else got more?]





DON'T FIGHT!



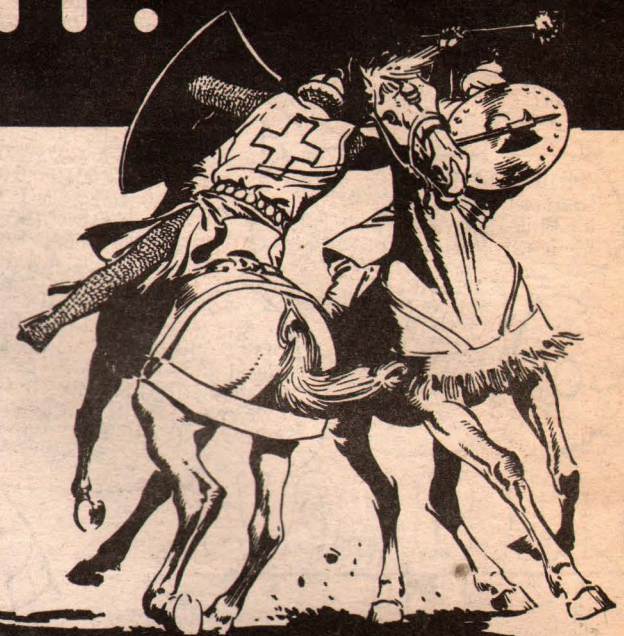
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IN THIS ISSUE: "GRATITUDE" WITH ART BY **JOE ORLANDO**, "THE KNOW-NOTHING" WITH ART BY **BERNIE KRIGSTEIN**, "THE TASTE OF FREEDOM" WITH **GRAHAM INGELS** ART, AND **REED CRANDALL** ART ON "A KNIGHT'S DREAM" (ILLUSTRATED HERE).

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HENRY PYM -- KNOWN VARIOUSLY AS THE MAN IN THE ANT HILL, ANT-MAN, GIANT-MAN, GOLIATH, AND YELLOW-JACKET -- WAS THE DISPENSABLE MARVEL SUPER-HERO, WHO, BY MY RECKONING AT THE VERY LEAST, HAD ONE TRULY INDISPENSABLE ADVENTURE!

WITHIN THE PAGES of Tales to Astonish #50, BACK IN 1963, WE FIND PYM, NEW TO HIS ROLE AS GIANT-MAN, LUMBERING ABOUT CLUMSILY AS HE HAPLESSLY ENCOUNTERS, FOR THE FIRST TIME, THE SPEEDY MENACE OF THE HUMAN TOP.



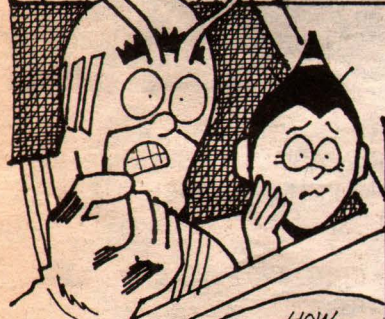
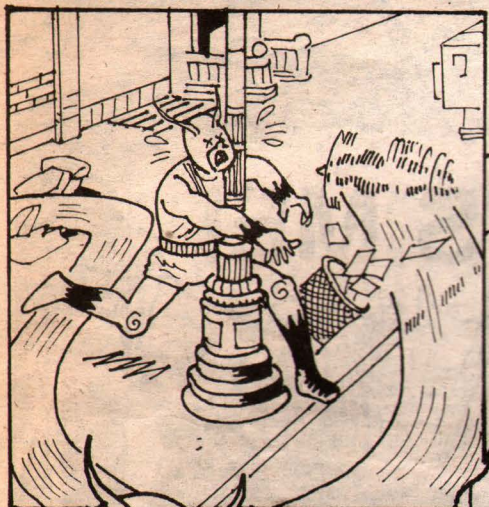
HIS TWELVE-FOOT FORM, NO ADVANTAGE AGAINST THE TWIRLING TWINKLE-TOES OF HIS EMERALD-CLAD ENEMY, THE NEOPHYTE GIANT FINDS HIMSELF DEFEATED AT EVERY TURN, PLUNGING THE ONCE-CONFIDENT CRIMEBUSTER INTO THE DEPTHS OF DESPAIR. BUT WORRY NOT, TRUE BELIEVER -- THIS WAS A PATENTED FORMULA SCRIBED BY STAN LEE HAD LONG SINCE PERFECTED. Y'KNOW, THE OLD "HERO GETS HEAD-HANDED TO HIM BY VILLAIN - PROMPTING HIM TO FEEL SORRY FOR HIMSELF UNTIL HE OR SHE MUSTERS STRENGTH FROM DEEP WITHIN - VOWING TO OVERCOME HIS LIMITATIONS AND BRING THE BAD GUY TO JUSTICE" BIT. YEAH, THAT ONE! HEY, IT WORKED FOR SPIDEY AND THE F.F. -- WHY NOT FOR GIANT-MAN?

NOW, TO PROPERLY PULL THIS OFF, THE STORY HAS TO BE SPLIT INTO TWO PARTS, SO THAT AFTER READING THE OPENING CHAPTER (BEAUTIFULLY ILLUSTRATED, I MIGHT ADD, BY THE MAGNIFICENT TEAM OF JACK KIRBY AND STEVE DITKO --

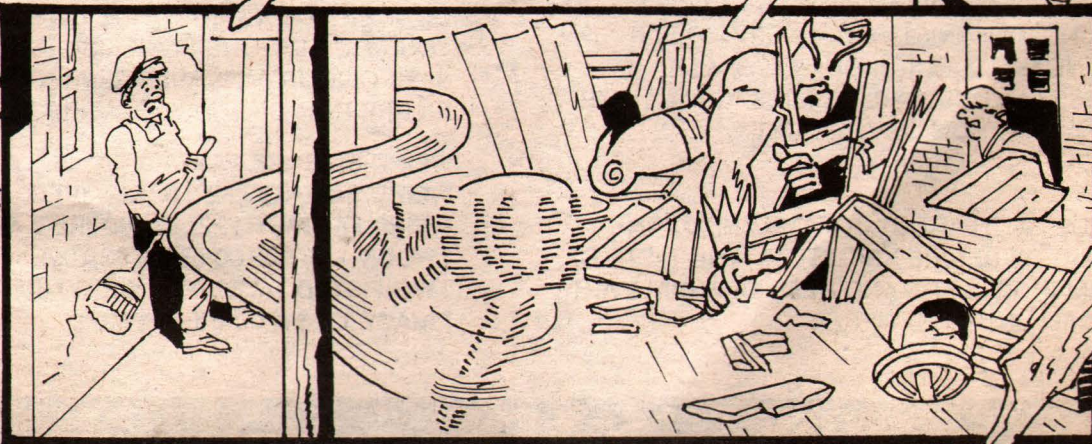
KIRBY'S POWER AND GLORY WAS ENHANCED BY DITKO'S DELICATELY ATMOSPHERIC BRUSH STROKES LIKE NO OTHER EMBELLISHER, AND IT'S A SHAME THEY DIDN'T COMBINE THEIR MASSIVE TALENTS MORE OFTEN ON MARVEL ADVENTURE MATERIAL. THERE'S THEN THAT MONTH OF DELICIOUS ANTICIPATION AWAITING THE TALES CONCLUSION. HISTORY SHOWS THAT, WHILE MULTI-PART EPICS WOULD BECOME THE NORM BY 1966, EVEN A MODEST TWO-PARTER WAS RARE FOR MARVEL IN THE DAWNING DAYS OF 1963.

BUT, AS MUCH AS I LOVE THIS STORY, YOU KNOW WHAT I REALIZE NOW -- AND PROBABLY INSTINCTIVELY KNEW EVEN AS A TEN-YEAR-OLD? THE SET-UP WAS FAR MORE ENTERTAINING THAN THE PAYOFF. FACT IS, THAT USUALLY SEEMS TO BE THE WAY, AND THE GIANT-MAN STORY IN Tales to Astonish #51 WAS NO EXCEPTION. GOOD, SOLID, SATISFYING ENDINGS ARE TOUGH TO COME UP WITH, AND, WELL, STAN DIDN'T QUITE PULL IT OFF THIS TIME.

DATeline: G!!!



HOW EXACTLY DID PYM PUT AN END TO THE FLEET-FOOTED FELON'S CRIME SPREE? WELL, THE BIG FELLA WITH THE BIG BRAIN LURED THE UNSUSPECTING CROOK ONTO A CITY BLOCK WHOSE ALLEYWAYS WERE ALL BLOCKED OFF BY TALL MESH FENCES, EFFECTIVELY TRAPPING THE TOP. NOW, GIANT-MAN HAD BUT TO WAIT UNTIL THE DESPERATE ROGUE TIRED HIMSELF OUT FRUITLESSLY ATTEMPTING TO ESCAPE, AND THEN GRABBED HIM WITH THOSE BIG OL' HANDS OF HIS! OH, AND SEEING AS HOW HANK HAD ALL KINDS OF TROUBLE HOLDING ONTO THE SPINNING SPEEDSTER IN PREVIOUS ENCOUNTERS, HIGH-POCKETS LEFT NOTHING TO CHANCE AND COATED HIS GLOVES WITH A VERY STICKY BRAND OF GLUE!!



THAT'S IT, END OF MENACE. THE DIRE THREAT THAT HAD HAD THE AVENGERS EYES A POPPIN' AND FISTS A SHAKIN' SO FURIOUSLY JUST 30 DAYS PAST WAS PUT DOWN EASILY AFTER A STOP OFF AT HOME DEPOT FOR SOME FENCING AND A GALLOON OF ELMER'S! AND, THOUGH SERVICABLY INKED BY DICK AYERS, STEVE DITKO WAS NOWHERE TO BE FOUND.

STILL, AT A COMBINED 25 PAGES -- PLUS TWO DYNAMIC COVERS -- THIS DICK-KIRBY-DITKO AYERS TALE DESERVES TO BE SEEN BY A NEW AUDIENCE. INASMUCH AS THERE NEVER HAS BEEN -- NOR IS THERE LIKELY EVER TO BE -- A DELUXE EDITION COLLECTING ALL THE EARLY ANT-MAN AND GIANT-MAN EPISODES, MIGHT I OFFER A SUGGESTION?

BY FRED HEMBECK

DRAWING UPON MATERIAL THAT HAS NEVER -- OR ONLY LONG -- LONG AGO -- BEEN REPRINTED FROM THE EMBRYONIC ERA OF MARVEL, ONE COULD ASSEMBLE QUITE A COLLECTION OF NEAR-FORGOTTEN DICK KIRBY AND DITKO MASTERPIECES: THE TORCH-SPIDER-MAN TEAM-UP FROM Strange Tales Annual #2, CAPTAIN AMERICA'S ENCOUNTER WITH THE HOWLING COMMANDOS, IN Sgt Fury #13, THE MEETING BETWEEN THE TORCH AND THE TRIAL BALLOON CAP, EVEN SOME TWO-GUN KID ADVENTURES -- ALONG WITH THIS INITIAL HUMAN TOP APPEARANCE, IT'D MAKE FOR AN ABSOLUTELY, WELL, INDISPENSABLE BOOK!!



<http://www.vincentcollectibles.com>

DC Comics	39 NM	\$50.00	76 NM	\$12.00	204 NM-N. Adams	71 NM-wp	\$50.00	133 NM	\$85.00	Swing with Scooter	10 NM + Toth	\$40.00	12 NM	\$15.00	54 VF	\$35.00	My Love	Sgt. Fury Special		
	40 NM <th>\$50.00</th> <td>77 NM<th>\$12.00</th><td>205 NM-N. Adams<td>72 NM-wp<th>\$50.00</th><td>134 NM<th>\$30.00</th><td>1 VF<td>11 NM + Toth<th>\$40.00</th><td>13 NM<th>\$15.00</th><td>56 VF<th>\$35.00</th><td>13 NM-NM<th>\$40.00</th><td>3 NM<th>\$35.00</th></td></td></td></td></td></td></td></td></td></td>	\$50.00	77 NM <th>\$12.00</th> <td>205 NM-N. Adams<td>72 NM-wp<th>\$50.00</th><td>134 NM<th>\$30.00</th><td>1 VF<td>11 NM + Toth<th>\$40.00</th><td>13 NM<th>\$15.00</th><td>56 VF<th>\$35.00</th><td>13 NM-NM<th>\$40.00</th><td>3 NM<th>\$35.00</th></td></td></td></td></td></td></td></td></td>	\$12.00	205 NM-N. Adams <td>72 NM-wp<th>\$50.00</th><td>134 NM<th>\$30.00</th><td>1 VF<td>11 NM + Toth<th>\$40.00</th><td>13 NM<th>\$15.00</th><td>56 VF<th>\$35.00</th><td>13 NM-NM<th>\$40.00</th><td>3 NM<th>\$35.00</th></td></td></td></td></td></td></td></td>	72 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th> <td>134 NM<th>\$30.00</th><td>1 VF<td>11 NM + Toth<th>\$40.00</th><td>13 NM<th>\$15.00</th><td>56 VF<th>\$35.00</th><td>13 NM-NM<th>\$40.00</th><td>3 NM<th>\$35.00</th></td></td></td></td></td></td></td>	\$50.00	134 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <td>1 VF<td>11 NM + Toth<th>\$40.00</th><td>13 NM<th>\$15.00</th><td>56 VF<th>\$35.00</th><td>13 NM-NM<th>\$40.00</th><td>3 NM<th>\$35.00</th></td></td></td></td></td></td>	\$30.00	1 VF <td>11 NM + Toth<th>\$40.00</th><td>13 NM<th>\$15.00</th><td>56 VF<th>\$35.00</th><td>13 NM-NM<th>\$40.00</th><td>3 NM<th>\$35.00</th></td></td></td></td></td>	11 NM + Toth <th>\$40.00</th> <td>13 NM<th>\$15.00</th><td>56 VF<th>\$35.00</th><td>13 NM-NM<th>\$40.00</th><td>3 NM<th>\$35.00</th></td></td></td></td>	\$40.00	13 NM <th>\$15.00</th> <td>56 VF<th>\$35.00</th><td>13 NM-NM<th>\$40.00</th><td>3 NM<th>\$35.00</th></td></td></td>	\$15.00	56 VF <th>\$35.00</th> <td>13 NM-NM<th>\$40.00</th><td>3 NM<th>\$35.00</th></td></td>	\$35.00	13 NM-NM <th>\$40.00</th> <td>3 NM<th>\$35.00</th></td>	\$40.00	3 NM <th>\$35.00</th>	\$35.00
Action	41 NM <th>\$50.00</th> <td>Creepers</td> <td></td> <td>206 NM-N. Adams<td>73 NM-wp<th>\$50.00</th><td>135 NM<th>\$30.00</th><td>2 VF/NM<td>12 Toth NM +<th>\$40.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>60 VF/NM<th>\$75.00</th><td>Nick Fury</td><td>Agent of Shield</td><td>1 VF/NM<th>\$25.00</th></td></td></td></td></td></td></td>	\$50.00	Creepers		206 NM-N. Adams <td>73 NM-wp<th>\$50.00</th><td>135 NM<th>\$30.00</th><td>2 VF/NM<td>12 Toth NM +<th>\$40.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>60 VF/NM<th>\$75.00</th><td>Nick Fury</td><td>Agent of Shield</td><td>1 VF/NM<th>\$25.00</th></td></td></td></td></td></td>	73 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th> <td>135 NM<th>\$30.00</th><td>2 VF/NM<td>12 Toth NM +<th>\$40.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>60 VF/NM<th>\$75.00</th><td>Nick Fury</td><td>Agent of Shield</td><td>1 VF/NM<th>\$25.00</th></td></td></td></td></td>	\$50.00	135 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <td>2 VF/NM<td>12 Toth NM +<th>\$40.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>60 VF/NM<th>\$75.00</th><td>Nick Fury</td><td>Agent of Shield</td><td>1 VF/NM<th>\$25.00</th></td></td></td></td>	\$30.00	2 VF/NM <td>12 Toth NM +<th>\$40.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>60 VF/NM<th>\$75.00</th><td>Nick Fury</td><td>Agent of Shield</td><td>1 VF/NM<th>\$25.00</th></td></td></td>	12 Toth NM + <th>\$40.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>60 VF/NM<th>\$75.00</th><td>Nick Fury</td><td>Agent of Shield</td><td>1 VF/NM<th>\$25.00</th></td></td>	\$40.00			60 VF/NM <th>\$75.00</th> <td>Nick Fury</td> <td>Agent of Shield</td> <td>1 VF/NM<th>\$25.00</th></td>	\$75.00	Nick Fury	Agent of Shield	1 VF/NM <th>\$25.00</th>	\$25.00
349 VF/NM <th>\$13.00</th> <td>42 NM<th>\$50.00</th></td> <td>1 NM<th>\$85.00</th></td> <td>74 NM-wp<th>\$50.00</th></td> <td>136 NM<th>\$30.00</th></td> <td>5 VF<td>14 Williamson / Adams<th>\$40.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>61 NM<th>\$75.00</th><td>Not Brand Echh</td><td>Stranger Tales</td><td>2 NM wp<th>\$25.00</th></td></td></td></td>	\$13.00	42 NM <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	1 NM <th>\$85.00</th>	\$85.00	74 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	136 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	5 VF <td>14 Williamson / Adams<th>\$40.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>61 NM<th>\$75.00</th><td>Not Brand Echh</td><td>Stranger Tales</td><td>2 NM wp<th>\$25.00</th></td></td></td>	14 Williamson / Adams <th>\$40.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>61 NM<th>\$75.00</th><td>Not Brand Echh</td><td>Stranger Tales</td><td>2 NM wp<th>\$25.00</th></td></td>	\$40.00			61 NM <th>\$75.00</th> <td>Not Brand Echh</td> <td>Stranger Tales</td> <td>2 NM wp<th>\$25.00</th></td>	\$75.00	Not Brand Echh	Stranger Tales	2 NM wp <th>\$25.00</th>	\$25.00
355 VF + wp <th>\$15.00</th>	\$15.00	43 NM <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	2 NM <th>\$55.00</th>	\$55.00	75 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	137 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	6 NM <td>NM +<th>\$60.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>62 NM<th>\$75.00</th><td>1 NM +<td>3 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td></td>	NM + <th>\$60.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>62 NM<th>\$75.00</th><td>1 NM +<td>3 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td>	\$60.00			62 NM <th>\$75.00</th> <td>1 NM +<td>3 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td>	\$75.00	1 NM + <td>3 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td>	3 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <th>\$100.00</th>	\$30.00	\$100.00
376 VF wp <th>\$25.00</th>	\$25.00	44 NM <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	3 NM <th>\$60.00</th>	\$60.00	76 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	138 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	7 NM <td>NM +<th>\$60.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>63 VF/NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>2 NM<td>3 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td></td>	NM + <th>\$60.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>63 VF/NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>2 NM<td>3 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td>	\$60.00			63 VF/NM <th>\$100.00</th> <td>2 NM<td>3 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td>	\$100.00	2 NM <td>3 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td>	3 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <th>\$100.00</th>	\$30.00	\$100.00
381 NM <th>\$16.00</th>	\$16.00	45 NM <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	4 NM <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	77 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	139 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	8 NM <td>NM +<th>\$60.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>64 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>3 NM<td>4 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td></td>	NM + <th>\$60.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>64 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>3 NM<td>4 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td>	\$60.00			64 NM <th>\$100.00</th> <td>3 NM<td>4 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td>	\$100.00	3 NM <td>4 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td>	4 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <th>\$100.00</th>	\$30.00	\$100.00
393 NM <th>\$16.00</th>	\$16.00	Bat Lash		5 NM <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	78 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	140 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	9 NM <td>NM +<th>\$60.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>65 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>4 NM<td>5 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td></td>	NM + <th>\$60.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>65 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>4 NM<td>5 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td>	\$60.00			65 NM <th>\$100.00</th> <td>4 NM<td>5 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td>	\$100.00	4 NM <td>5 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td>	5 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <th>\$100.00</th>	\$30.00	\$100.00
394 NM <th>\$16.00</th>	\$16.00	7 VF/NM <th>\$10.00</th>	\$10.00	DC 100 Page		79 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	141 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	10 NM <td>NM +<th>\$60.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>66 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>5 NM<td>6 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td></td>	NM + <th>\$60.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>66 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>5 NM<td>6 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td>	\$60.00			66 NM <th>\$100.00</th> <td>5 NM<td>6 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td>	\$100.00	5 NM <td>6 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td>	6 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <th>\$100.00</th>	\$30.00	\$100.00
395 NM <th>\$16.00</th>	\$16.00	Batman		Super Spectacular		80 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	142 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	11 NM <td>NM +<th>\$60.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>67 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>6 NM<td>7 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td></td>	NM + <th>\$60.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>67 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>6 NM<td>7 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td>	\$60.00			67 NM <th>\$100.00</th> <td>6 NM<td>7 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td>	\$100.00	6 NM <td>7 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td>	7 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <th>\$100.00</th>	\$30.00	\$100.00
399 VF/NM + wp <th>\$16.00</th>	\$16.00	181 VF + wp <th>\$125.00</th>	\$125.00	5 NM-rare <th>\$875.00</th>	\$875.00	81 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	143 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	12 NM <td>NM +<th>\$60.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>68 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>7 NM<td>8 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td></td>	NM + <th>\$60.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>68 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>7 NM<td>8 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td>	\$60.00			68 NM <th>\$100.00</th> <td>7 NM<td>8 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td>	\$100.00	7 NM <td>8 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td>	8 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <th>\$100.00</th>	\$30.00	\$100.00
401 VF/NM wp <th>\$14.00</th>	\$14.00	Dark Mansions of		9 NM <th>\$90.00</th>	\$90.00	82 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	144 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	13 NM <td>NM +<th>\$60.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>69 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>8 NM<td>9 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td></td>	NM + <th>\$60.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>69 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>8 NM<td>9 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td>	\$60.00			69 NM <th>\$100.00</th> <td>8 NM<td>9 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td>	\$100.00	8 NM <td>9 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td>	9 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <th>\$100.00</th>	\$30.00	\$100.00
405 NM + wp <th>\$15.00</th>	\$15.00	Forbidden Love		DC Special		83 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	145 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	14 NM <td>NM +<th>\$60.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>70 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>9 NM<td>10 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td></td>	NM + <th>\$60.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>70 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>9 NM<td>10 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td>	\$60.00			70 NM <th>\$100.00</th> <td>9 NM<td>10 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td>	\$100.00	9 NM <td>10 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td>	10 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <th>\$100.00</th>	\$30.00	\$100.00
433 NM <th>\$10.00</th>	\$10.00	190 NM <th>\$40.00</th>	\$40.00	1 NM <th>\$200.00</th>	\$200.00	84 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	146 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	15 NM <td>NM +<th>\$60.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>71 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>10 NM<td>11 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td></td>	NM + <th>\$60.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>71 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>10 NM<td>11 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td>	\$60.00			71 NM <th>\$100.00</th> <td>10 NM<td>11 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td>	\$100.00	10 NM <td>11 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td>	11 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <th>\$100.00</th>	\$30.00	\$100.00
Adventure		200 NM wp, N. Adams <th>\$205.00</th>	\$205.00	4 NM <th>\$75.00</th>	\$75.00	85 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	147 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	16 NM <td>NM +<th>\$60.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>72 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>11 NM<td>12 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td></td>	NM + <th>\$60.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>72 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>11 NM<td>12 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td>	\$60.00			72 NM <th>\$100.00</th> <td>11 NM<td>12 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td>	\$100.00	11 NM <td>12 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td>	12 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <th>\$100.00</th>	\$30.00	\$100.00
338 VF <th>\$20.00</th>	\$20.00	209 NM-NM/wp <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	5 NM <th>\$40.00</th>	\$40.00	86 NM-wp <th>\$50.00</th>	\$50.00	148 NM <th>\$30.00</th>	\$30.00	17 NM <td>NM +<th>\$60.00</th><td></td><td></td><td>73 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>12 NM<td>13 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td></td>	NM + <th>\$60.00</th> <td></td> <td></td> <td>73 NM<th>\$100.00</th><td>12 NM<td>13 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td></td>	\$60.00			73 NM <th>\$100.00</th> <td>12 NM<td>13 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td></td>	\$100.00	12 NM <td>13 NM<th>\$30.00</th><th>\$100.00</th></td>	13 NM <th>\$30.00</th> <th>\$100.00</th>	\$30.00	\$100.00
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"God gave us memory that we might have roses in December."

— James M. Barrie

Dan T's Inferno

By Dan Tyree

My association with the Legion has waxed and waned over the years, but the *Adventure Comics* yarns of the late '60s remain my all-time favorite series. And why not? Look at this list of the neatest things about the 30th Century:

- When the Science Police bust you for speeding, before they write out the ticket, they show you how a simple pin and a glass of water can make a crude compass.

- Brainiac 5 has finally figured out when the 21st Century really began.

- Jim Shooter is a full-time scripter, having given up his last publishing gig nearly 300 years earlier.

- Princess Projectra never once projects *Godzilla*.

- Zillionaire R.J. Brande uses his fortune to bankroll the Legion, instead of trying to reconstruct the Mile High Collection for the eighth time.

Lads! Lasses! Boys! Girls! Kids! Damsels! Get Dan Tyree's free newsletter by e-mailing him at: DTyree@infoave.net

Every year about this time, CBG's editors ask the newspaper's contributors and readers to suggest holiday gifts. As I'm writing this column, they haven't yet asked me for my picks. However, as I looked at the stack of items I was planning to review this week, it suddenly hit me that all of them would make really great gifts for someone you and I know. It's fate.

☞ **Superman: The Action Comics Archives Volume 2** (DC, \$49.95) is another pricey-yet-priceless collection of the earliest stories by Jerry Siegel, Joe Shuster, and their Superman studio. These tales were first published in *Action Comics* #21 (Feb 40) through #36 (May 41), and, boy howdy, is this not the Superman I grew up with in the 1950s and 1960s. Superman racks up an impressive body count in these "pre-code against killing" adventures. In one story, he destroys an airplane and a submarine with nary a hint of survivors. But he also gets involved with such social concerns as gambling addiction, medical fraud, and disadvantaged children. The Clark-Lois-Superman triangle is a rocky one in these early comics. She says: "Why did they have to send this wet blanket along to ruin my perfect adventure?" He says: "That gal's a natural for getting involved in mischief — but that's just what I like about her!"

My favorite quote in the volume? That would be: "If he dislikes reporters, it may be because he has something to hide." I probably sound like a broken record when it comes to the

DC Archives series, but these volumes remain some of the best and most important comics material being published today. \$50 a pop notwithstanding, I recommend them highly.

☞ **Safe Return Home: An Inspirational Book for Caregivers of Alzheimer's** (Andrews McMeel, \$12.95) is a collection of *Crankshaft* comic strips by Tom Batiuk and Chuck Ayers. Interspersed with the strips are comments from health-care professionals and readers who have found some comfort in the sensitive treatment of the disease as portrayed in these strips. For those of you who haven't read the strip, *Crankshaft* is a cantankerous old man who lives with his daughter, son-in-law, and grandson and works as a school-bus driver.

Over the years, Batiuk and Ayers have gone beyond the usual gag-a-day format of the comic strip to tell moving stories about adult illiteracy, the homeless, and, most notably, Alzheimer's Disease. The wife of *Crankshaft*'s best friend has Alzheimer's and lives in a nursing home. His next-door neighbor, one of two spinster sisters, has also been diagnosed with the disease and has had several episodes of wandering away in search of a past that sometimes becomes her "now."

Their stories will bring tears to your eyes, remind you of the courage of those who care for Alzheimer's patients, and, if you're like me, fill you with a sense of pride over what wonders can be accomplished in the comics art form. "Your *Crankshaft* is wonderful — so original and true to life," writes one anonymous reader. "Your recent strip with the Barrie quote ... carried the most meaning and emotion of any comic I've ever seen ... Those three little frames speak volumes. And *Crankshaft* did not have to say a word — his hand on his friend's shoulder says it all. There is a lesson there for us all. It is surely cartooning at its best and highest level ..."

In their quotes, several readers assume Batiuk and Ayers must have personal experience with an Alzheimer's victim. Surprisingly, they don't. As I know from interviewing Batiuk for the forthcoming *Hogan's Alley* #6, the fine comics art magazine edited by Richard E. Marschall and Tom Heintjes, the realistic depiction of Alzheimer's in the strip is the result of the cartoonists' extensive research on the subject. Batiuk and Ayers don't cut corners; that's why their work has the power to move readers so.

Safe Return Home also includes a long quote from comics legend Gil Kane, who praised the strip during a recent interview in *The Comics Jour-*

nal. Kane said, "I thought his stuff was as touching as *anything* I ever read in the comics."

Safe Return Home would be a wonderful gift for anyone dealing with Alzheimer's, curious about the disease, or simply interested in the comics art form at its finest. As Kane states, "I was so touched by the intelligence and sensitivity of the material." And I can't say it any better than that.

☞ The Baby Boomers on your holiday list will get a kick out of **Dave Barry Turns 50** (Crown, \$22). Not only is it as funny a "rite of passage" book as you're likely to find, but it also features a number of comics references. Barry mentions *Pogo*, the "corruption" of minors by comic books, *Mad*, Superman, Spider-Man, and more with a winning combination of derision and reverence. Aging, music, politics, and television are among his subjects. One of my favorite passages concerns the 1954 TV debut of *Lassie*. Barry writes:

Lassie, in my opinion, is the least realistic television program ever made. I mean, here you had this brilliant dog, living with the world's stupidest farm family. These people were so stupid that they hardly ever left the house. They just sat around the kitchen all day, looking out the window and wondering, "How come all the neighbors have crops?"

I loved this book. You will, too.

☞ From NBM comes **Fairy Tales of Oscar Wilde: The Birthday of the Infanta** (\$15.95), exquisitely illustrated by P. Craig Russell. This is the third volume in the Wilde-Russell series, preceded by *The Selfish Giant and the Star Child* and *The Young King and the Remarkable Rocket*. The 32-page *Birthday* is a little too dark a tale for younger children, but teen and older fans of fairy tales will love it.

Even if you're not a fairy tale buff, Russell's drawings will captivate you. They are amazing.

☞ Looking for something offbeat for a fellow fan? Give him or her a copy of Scott Saavedra's **Comic Book Heaven** (Slave Labor Graphics, \$1.95). This 36-page digest magazine brings together the best of Saavedra's ongoing tribute to the cool, goofy, wonderful comics he read as a young man. It features charts of DC and Marvel monsters, great comic-book quotes, and reviews of "some of the strangest comic-book stories ever." On its own, *Comic Book Heaven* would make a terrific stocking stuffer. However, you could turn it into an "hours of fun" gift by packaging it with a selection of inexpensive reading copies

of the various comics Saavedra honors.

Comic Book Heaven is available from your friendly neighborhood comics retailer, or you can order it directly from Saavedra. *Comic Book Heaven* #5-7 are also available at \$2 each. Send check or money order to:

Scott Saavedra
P.O. Box 2363
Saratoga, CA 95070

☞ Need another stocking stuffer? Let me immodestly recommend a copy of **Captain America: Liberty's Torch** by yours truly and fellow CBGer Bob Ingersoll (Berkley Boulevard, \$6.50) with one heck of a cover by Steranko and interior illustrations by Mike Zeck. This is a paperback original in which the Captain is kidnapped by a militia group and put on trial for the imagined crimes of the United States.

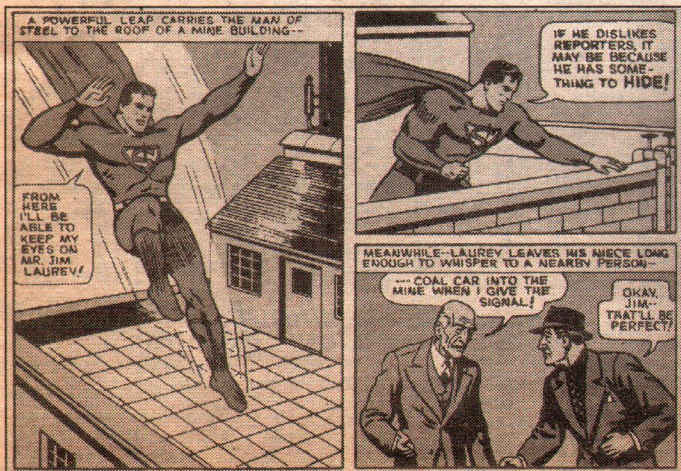
While Cap faces the most hostile courtroom of all, the Falcon must find his partner and prevent the militia group from achieving its true objective. It may not be *A Christmas Carol*, but it's a fun, thoughtful novel that combines exciting super-hero action with a chilling dose of reality. I hope you'll check it out.

☞ What do I want for the holidays? Of course, there's the usual requests: health and happiness for my kids, my family, my friends, and the comics industry as a whole. Some calls from comics editors with assignments for me would also be nice.

I've also had my eye on **Banned Books** (Facts on File, \$112), a four-volume set edited by Ken Wachsberger. Each volume focuses on books which were suppressed (or which some group or individual tried to suppress) for different "reasons": political, religious, sexual, and social grounds. This strikes me as an indispensable weapon in the ongoing battle to protect our rights of free expression from those who would gut them in the name of their political or pseudo-religious agendas. Knowledge is power.

Here's wishing you the happiest of holiday seasons. God bless you and yours at this most joyous time of the year and in the many years to come.

Tony Isabella, Bob Ingersoll, and Tom Batiuk are but three of the dozens of guests from the world of comics and entertainment who will attend the 19th annual Mid-Ohio-Con, Nov. 28 and 29 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in downtown Columbus. Don't miss out on one of the very best conventions in the known universe. Comments on and review items for this column can be sent to: *Tony's Tips*, P.O. Box 1502, Medina, OH 44258.



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THE ADVENTURES of **BUMPKIN BUZZ**

EPISODE #245

AN ELECTRIFYING TRUE-LIFE TALE!

DATELINE: MID-SUMMER 1997 00

KIDS IN TIGHTS

© AND TM 1998
BUMPKIN
DOUGLAS AHERN

WELL? WHATTAYA THINK? ISN'T IT TOO COOL?

IT WAS DESIGNED ESPECIALLY FOR ME!!

AND YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO BE--?

I'M THUNDERBOLT BOY OF THE BATTALION OF FUTURE KIDS!

I LIKE THE BACK-LIGHTING...

A WHOLE BUNCH OF PEOPLE WILL BE THERE--ALL IN DIFFERENT COSTUMES! IT'S SUCH AN HONOR! AND I WANT YOU TO PHOTOGRAPH THE EVENT!

Y'KNOW, I'VE NEVER READ A FUTURE KIDS COMIC IN MY LIFE.

NOW, THIS IS A WEIGHTY RESPONSIBILITY--

YES, YES, IT'S ALL VERY THRILLING.

AND I'VE BEEN ASKED TO APPEAR IN COSTUME AT THE BIG WHIZ-BANG CONVENTION IN CHICAGO!

THAT WEEKEND, AT THE COMIC CONVENTION--

SO YOU'RE ALL SET THERE? YOU'VE ADJUSTED THE LIGHT METER--

LOOKIT, I KNOW HOW TO WORK A CRUMMY CAMERA!

WOW!

THUNDERBOLT BOY!

PSYCHIC GAL!

COSMIC DEX!

VITALITY LAD!

MEGA KID!

GHOST WIG!

WHY, BUZZ-- I HAD NO IDEA!

GATEES AT EIGHT!

GALAXY LAD!

MISS TRANSMUTER!

THIS IS GREAT! I KNOW YOU SAID THERE'D BE OTHERS IN COSTUME, B-BUT I NEVER EXPECTED--!

CLICK CLICKA CLICK

HOLD THAT POSE! OH, BEAUTIFUL! I HOPE I HAVE ENOUGH FILM!

CLICK CLICKA CLICK

I ADMIRE YOUR ENTHUSIASM, BUT WE'RE OVER HERE, KNOHEAD!!

OH, THE PRECIOUS MEMORIES!

ARCH YOUR BACK!

CLICKA CLICKA CLICK

JOIN US NEXT TIME--

FOR: **SHIFTING FOCUS**

OR "IF I COULD SAVE TIME IN A BUBBLE"



Make checks payable to:

Terry Stroud

(818) 505-1462 (NO MESSAGE MACHINE); IF NO ANSWER, (310) 399-4352 (LEAVE MESSAGE) • PHONE HOURS: 11:00 A.M.-11:00 P.M. (PST). Please do not call at any other times. • P.O. Box 23, Santa Monica, CA 90406 • CA orders add 8% sales tax.

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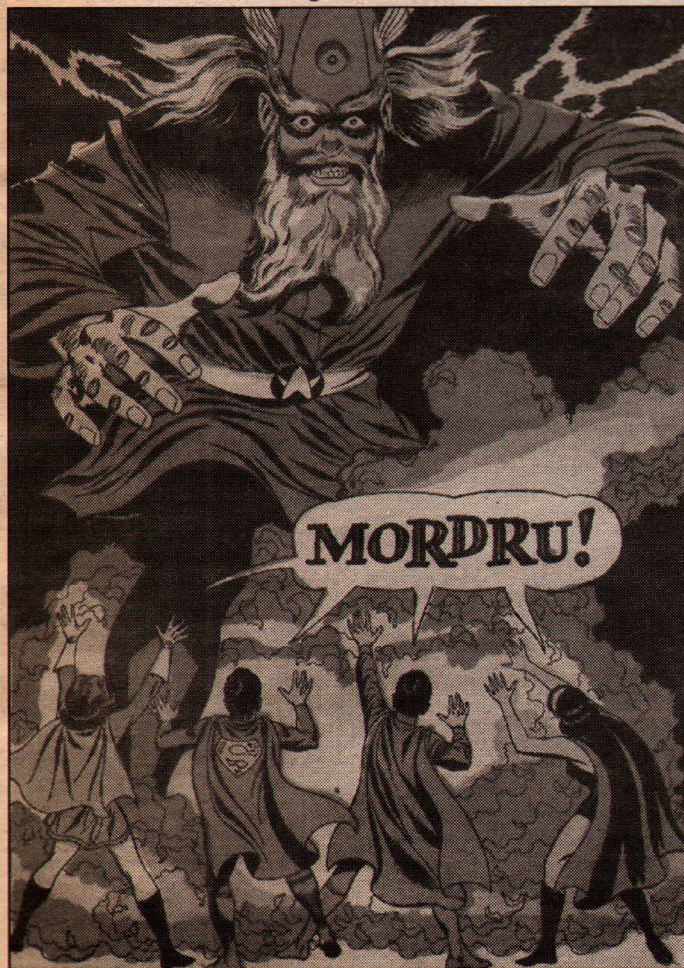
By Matt Brady

"If you took someone from 1,000 years ago and showed them today's technology, they'd be convinced you were a magician or a demon with supernatural powers."

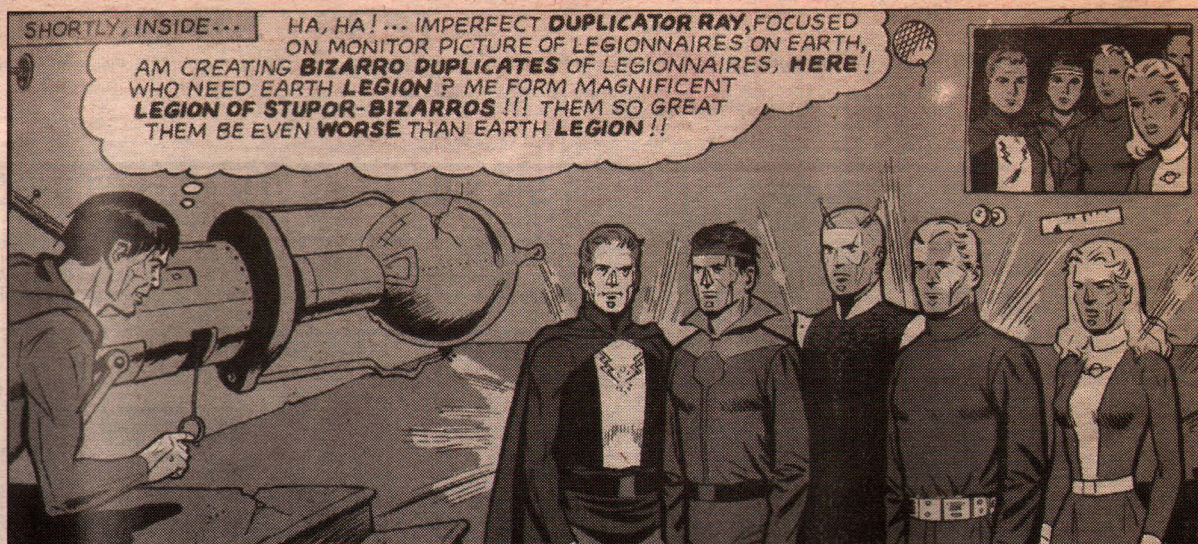
— Roger Stern

It's still a collection of the 30th century's best heroes, but with a difference.

While the Legion of Super-Heroes may have made its debut more than 40 years ago, today's Legion is far from stodgy, thanks to "Zero Hour" which rebooted the Legion and began the future all over again. Unlike the classic Legion of Super-Heroes, today's Legion is a Legion without so many 20th century ties — one that's proven to be more streamlined and easier to deal with, according to Tom McCraw: co-plotter, colorist, and 10-year veteran of the various Legion series. "When I was writing the series before 'Zero Hour,' a perfect example of the problems we would have was when other writers destroyed the Green Lantern Corps," McCraw said. "That completely wiped out any Green Lantern-based things that we had done and it just became a nightmare to deal with. With 'Zero Hour,' all that was severed. We can touch into the 20th century now if we want, and we can set things up so they won't affect us too much, so it's no problem. The reboot just makes *Legion* a whole lot easier to write."



Although the story in *Adventure Comics* #369 (Jun 68) indicated that this was the team's second meeting with Mordru, the group's first encounter was only told in flashback in that story, until writer Roger Stern reintroduced the magical villain in the current *Legion* series in 1997.



More concepts familiar to long-time *Legion* fans will make their way into upcoming stories, including a return of the Bizarro Legion.

Fandom follows along. While The Legion's history may have changed during "Zero Hour," one thing that has remained constant is the *de facto* board of Legion editors, also known as Legion fandom. According to Legion Editor Mike McAvennie, a majority of classic Legion fans are still on board today, letting their voices be heard. "Legion fans are a class unto themselves," McAvennie said. "They're loyal to the end and they have a very keen perception on the characters' lives in each story. They're also very protective of the characters, so, if they think we're doing something wrong, they're quick to tell us. If they like something, they're also quick to tell us. As for the newer Legion fans, they're starting to develop an appreciation for the team, and we've really been concentrating on them, as well."

"The fans are one of the things I really like about writing *The Legion*," *Legion* co-plotter and scripter Tom Peyer said. "Legion fandom is really an active readership where they've filled in the blanks for themselves on a lot of things. It's really participatory. Even back when they were more simple comics in the '60s, there was plenty of space for people to ascribe conditions and personality traits to the characters and the stories, where there was nothing explicitly stated."

The shiny future. History may have been streamlined, but there are other challenges to writing the adventures of today's Legion of Super-Heroes. Chief among these is the fact that what made for "gee-whiz" science-fiction concepts in the '60s and '70s are either today's reality or have been done to death in the science-fiction-savvy intervening years. "The hardest thing is keeping ahead of the science curve but still making it recognizable," *Legionnaires* co-plotter

and scripter Roger Stern explained. "Look at where technology was 1,000 years ago. If you took someone from 1,000 years ago and showed them today's technology, they'd be convinced you were a magician or a demon with supernatural powers."

"A thousand years from now, a machine may not even look like a machine, so the trick is to make it look futuristic enough but still recognizable. For example, Omnicoms are little handheld things about the size of a paperback book. It's a little communication device, it's a computer, it's a library uplink, and it fits in your hand. It's not that far ahead of what they're talking about right now. We'll probably have something like this in 100 years, much less in 1,000. But you have to figure it's a good design. For all we know, in 1,000 years, you may have a floating holographic chip implanted in your head and you just have to say something and a things will happen, but that's not very visual. So the idea is to come up with future tech that's convincing but that's also recognizable, so people will know what it is. In 1,000 years, we may be disembodied intelligences."

For McAvennie, the challenge of making believable 30th century technology is an integral factor of the overall series. "I want to really play up the 1,000 years in the Legion comics, to make them actually feel like 1,000 years from now," he said. "Look at all the advances that we've made in the 40 years that *The Legion* has been around. We're doing things that we used to joke about being fairly new in the 30th century. The way technology is moving now, we have to come up with bigger and better things."

The Legion of accessible heroes. While Legion-era technology

may be a concern to the creators, above nearly all else, Legion creators are adamant about making sure this Legion doesn't start a slide into inaccessibility for the new reader. With 1,000 years of history, nearly an entire galaxy, and somewhere in the neighborhood of 30 characters to cover, it's something that proves to be a challenge from month to month.

"One of the things I want to do is try to simplify the comics a bit for at least the time being, so people can get a foothold again," McAvennie said. "One of the ways of doing that is what we're doing with *The Legion's* headquarters. We now have two: one in outer space in *Legionnaires* and one on Earth in *Legion of Super-Heroes*. This way we can have some cosmic adventures in *Legion of Super-Heroes*, while we deal with some more Earth-bound problems. Just the title *Legionnaires* allows us to focus on one or two individual characters a little more than *Legion*, where fans are expecting big team action."

When it comes to the number of characters appearing, the three Legion plotters have reached a balance on the number of characters that appear in any given issue. "We used to try and cram everyone in all the time," Peyer said. "We were just making life harder for ourselves and we weren't making the stories any better. For some reason, we used to feel that we had to show what they all were doing every day and account for everybody. We're getting better now about just using the members who can contribute to a particular story in an interesting way."

The past's place in the future. Adding to the challenge of making *The Legion* accessible is the fact that since the reboot, Legion creators

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LEGION

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have dipped and continue to dip into the Legion's past to introduce updated versions of classic characters or situations. When it comes to choosing what should be updated for the current day, McCraw said that several factors come into play, including who makes sense logically, the wishes of the fans, and the wishes of the creators. "I do the on-line chats with the Legion fans on Tuesdays and Thursdays, and the fans are always asking when this character or that character is coming back," McCraw said. "If a character has a lot of general fan interest, it's something we definitely want to think about. They've got fond memories about these characters, just as we do. If it works into the series well, we'll definitely do it."

However, anyone offered up for a post-reboot treatment gets a stern eye from Stern. "My whole take on The Legion is that we don't look back," Stern said. "With that said, however, I have to admit that I was a strong voice in favor of bringing Mordru back for two reasons: first, because he was a very supernatural character as opposed to being a science-based villain, something that The Legion had seen a lot of until that point; and second, Jim Shooter gave me fits as a teen-ager collecting The Legion when he wrote the first Mordru story and made a reference to how difficult their first battle with Mordru was. I spent years looking for that back issue with the first battle in it, and finally Jim told me he just made it up — there never was a first battle. Now there is, and I got to write it."

"After that, sure, there are certain givens: We have The Fatal Five, and there might be a couple of other villains with sim-

ilar names or ideas from the original series, but my whole deal with the series is that it's all new stuff and we go forward. If there is an old character or name that fits in, fine — if it doesn't, just go ahead, anyway."

Plans. As for upcoming stories, the two series will continue their split, with *Legionnaires* telling the tales of Legion members on the outpost, and *Legion* focusing on the more Earth-centered adventures of a different set of heroes. Beginning in *Legionnaires* #67, Karate Kid takes on M'onel, a battle whose outcome McCraw thinks will surprise a few readers. "It's the Legionnaire with all the powers versus the Legionnaire with no powers," McCraw said. "This is our chance to flesh out Karate Kid, as well as show him to be one of the galaxy's top butt-kickers."

Beyond that, look for *Legionnaires* to continue to focus on one or two characters in remote situations. "In *Legionnaires* #68 and #69, we'll be focusing on Element Lad and Monstress, who will undergo some visual changes," McAvennie said. "It's a story with a lot of robots brought in by a villain from the 20th century who fought the JLA in *JLA Year One*."

Legionnaires will also feature more of the development of Lori Morning, a 20th-century adolescent brought to the 30th century during a battle with Chronos. Recently, Lori acquired the Dial H for Hero Dial, giving her virtually unlimited powers. However, The Legion still considers her to be too immature for membership, something Lori is looking to change in a hurry.

"Also in *Legionnaires*, we'll see The Elementals of Disaster, made up of elemental beings, one of which has a very strong Le-



Following her introduction in *Power of Shazam! Annual* #1, Thunder, the female Captain Marvel, popped up in a couple of issues of *Power of Shazam!* and recently joined *The Legion* in *Legion of Super-Heroes* #110.

gion connection," McAvennie said. "Basically, these Elementals are going to try to expand their power base and take over worlds. The story will also introduce us to a big Legion villain."

Meanwhile, back on the Earth in *Legion of Super-Heroes*, #112 focuses on Ferro and Triad's friendship, while the 30th century gets some new technology with the debut of the Anywhere Machine in #113.

"The Anywhere Machine will allow our heroes to go to all sorts of lands and worlds in a virtual reality sense," Peyer said. "If they have a visual of where they need to go, they can go there. They can't necessarily interact with the environment that's there, but a couple of Legionaries are going to use this device to try and save Kinetix, whose mind has been messed with for the past year."

Following the Anywhere Machine, look

for another tip of the hat to Legion days gone by, as Brainiac 5 takes a closer look at some of the data files he took from Lexcorp when the team was trapped in the 20th century. "One of those files is actually the Bizarro file," McAvennie said. "He can't resist the idea to try to make a Bizarro, but, like all of Brainy's experiments, it gets out of control, and we end up with the Legion of Super-Bizarros. It's a lot of fun and a really good story."

McAvennie also revealed that Thunder, the Captain Marvel from the Legion's future who made her debut in *LSH* #110, will be a semi-regular in *The Legion*. "Thunder and Sensor will go on a quest to find the pieces of the Rock of Eternity," McAvennie said. "They'll also run into a new villain along the way who wants his own piece of the rock, so to speak."

Also, when talking of the future of the future's elite super-team, it goes without saying that the team will feel ramifications of the upcoming "Kingdom" event that will realign DC's cosmological status quo, including time and dimensional travel. For now, though, those plans are best left on the drawing board. "We're looking at trying some 'Kingdom'-based stuff," McCraw said. "With that kind of stuff, though, you have to go through a lot of checks and balances, because editorial doesn't want everyone coming up with a 'Hypertime' story. We don't want to ignore it but we don't want it to become a gimmick for *The Legion*. It has the danger of potentially making the series very confusing for people, and people just walking away because they can't understand it any more. If it's treated right, it should be OK and fun, so we'll have to see."

And beyond? McAvennie said he realizes The Legion milestone that may pass during his watch — the 30th century's premier super-hero team may become the 31st century's premier super-hero team. "Asking to change the 'official' Legion era is something I'm considering," McAvennie said. "After all, The Legion isn't just about the 30th century; it's supposed to be 1,000 years ahead of the rest of the DC universe. If we don't roll the clock, we're catching up to *The Legion*, and we've only got 900 more years to play with instead of that 1,000."

"All in all, though, *The Legion* will go on — somebody's got to keep tomorrow safe."

Legion fandom: Alive, well, and vocal

By T Campbell

Five by five they marched in, their eyes bright. They came in all shapes and sizes, in red and green and blue. But all of them were young — in spirit, anyway. Welcome to a typical Legion panel, this one at this year's Heroes Con in Charlotte, N.C.

Behind the table sat Mike McAvennie, KC Carlson, and recent *Legion* artist Chris Sprouse. Questions ranged from imaginative ("Why does Sensor have arms?") to traditional ("I'm a patient man — but I've been waiting seven years for Wildfire.").

Though he bore up well, the traditionalists seemed to make McAvennie just a bit uncomfortable. Some pressured him to use more ideas from the Shooter-Swan era, others from the Giffen-Levitz era, still others from the Tom and Mary Bierbaum era. "I think we need to create our own era," he repeated.

Fandom's influences. But the weight of history is to be expected. Legion fandom has history of its own. By the early '70s, the fans were influencing the stories. "Fan ideas defined Legion

characteristics," Carlson commented. Fans demanded the first gay Legionnaire, "elected" team leaders, and encouraged the long-standing tradition of Legion romances.

Everyone seemed to have different reasons for being a Legion fan — but many cited the Legion's world-building, probably the most layered and positive of any American comic. The Legion's future pulled fans in.

That appeal has let the Legion reach a few other markets: "Flight rings" scored points with most fans, although Don Sakers noted, "I seem to have gotten a dud. It doesn't make me fly, and it doesn't even have a compressed Flash costume inside."

While most fans said they appreciated the Legion's appearance on TV's animated *Superman*, few said they felt that television or movies could capture the Legion's epic scope. Until recently, the Legion has remained a print-only phenomenon. Until the Internet.

On-line fandom. Granted, readers were printing fanzines as part of amateur press associations (apas) years before the Internet went public. One apa,

Interlac, has a founding roster that includes Jim Shooter. But the Internet has allowed Legion fans to reach out to each other — and to the comics — as never before. And computer literacy charts highly among Legion fans, so a few sites show real sophistication: an Interlac translator, photo-edited *Legionnaires* as Lego figures, and interactive Legion role-playing games.

Of course, no two fans think alike. One fan's favorite era, writer, artist, or character is another's abomination. One of the noisiest fan factions is the Cosmic Boy Death League, which catalogues all Cosmic Boy's offenses since the Legion "reboot" and clamors for his destruction.

But all Legion fans seem to agree on certain principles. Sakers said he believes the Legion's future can help our own. "One of our biggest problems in the 21st century will be nationalism-tribalism: the fragmentation of the world into ethnic units who are at one another's throats. In the mythology of the United Planets, especially as seen in the current Legion series, I think we see hope for our own world situation."

One could say the same for the United Legion Factions.

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SUN, NOV 22

ComicFreek '98 in Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Final day. See Calendar Notes.

Born on this date:

Roy Thomas (1940)
David Wenzel (1950)
Kim Yale (1953) 45 years ago
Ron Randall (1956)
Daniel Vozzo (1962)

MON, NOV 23**Born on this date:**

Carl Gafford (1953) 45 years ago
Wayne R. Smith (1959)

TUES, NOV 24

CBG #1308 ships — The Spirit of Comics issue features Will Eisner's *The Spirit*, from the early days to Kitchen Sink's *The Spirit: The New Adventures*.

WED, NOV 25**Born on this date:**

Chris Claremont
Paul Murry (1911)
Sean Deming (1963) 35 years ago
Ken Lester (1963) 35 years ago

THURS, NOV 26**Thanksgiving****Born on this date:**

Dan Green
Charles M. Schulz (1922)
Barbara Marker (1949)
Doug Rice (1950)
Pat Broderick (1953) 45 years ago
Darrell McNeil (1957)

FRI, NOV 27**Born on this date:**

Paul Guinan (1962)

SAT, NOV 28

Mid-Ohio-Con begins in Columbus, Ohio. See Calendar Notes.

Born on this date:

Shelley Eiber
Dale Crain
Mark A. Nelson (1953) 45 years ago
Brian Aphorpe (1955)
Jerry Ordway (1957)

Publishers

To see your comics listed here, please supply the exact shipping date for each title as soon as possible, preferably at least one month ahead of time. Send the information to: Maggie Thompson, CBG Calendar, 700 E. State St., Iola, WI 54990. The same goes for any other announcements, additions, and corrections.

CBG Calendar Notes

Shows listed are multiple-day, non-mall-show events with the primary focus on comic books. Further information about these and other shows, as well as creator appearances, can be found each week in the *CBG* features *What*, *Where*, and *When* and *Now Appearing*.

• **ComicFreek '98**, Nov. 21 and 22 at the Toronto International Centre, Hall 6, 6900 Airport Road at Derry, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Guests include Murphy Anderson, Joe Jusko, Drew Hayes, Tim Vigil, and Karl Altstaetter. Hours: Saturday 11 a.m.-7 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission: \$8/one day; \$12/two days. Children under 8 are admitted free when accompanied by an adult.

• **Mid-Ohio-Con**, Nov. 28 and 29 at the Adam's Mark Hotel, 50 N. Third St. in downtown Columbus, Ohio. Guests include: Tom Batiuk, John Byrne, Tom Lyle, Don Rosa, Jeff Smith, Roger Stern, and Mark Waid. Events include an auction to benefit the Comic Book

Legal Defense System. Hours: Saturday 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Admission: \$12/day; \$20/two days.

Continuing This Week

• **American Dream Gallery**, 72 Walcott St., Bath, United Kingdom. Info: David Currie at 01225 424881. **Current exhibit: 60 Years of Superman** exhibit, through Nov. 30. A retrospective of the career of the world's first super-hero. Includes personal folio art by industry professionals exhibited for the first time.

• **Cartoon Art Museum**, 814 Mission St., San Francisco, CA. Call for updates on current exhibits: (415) CAR-TOON.

• **The Genius of Winsor McCay**, through Dec. 30 at the Ohio State University Cartoon Research Library Reading Room Gallery, 27 West 17th Ave. Mall, Columbus, OH.

• **International Museum of Cartoon Art**, 201 Plaza Real, Boca Raton, FL 33432. Call for updates on current exhibits: (561) 391-2200. **Current exhibit: A Holiday Cartoon Celebration**, through Jan. 17. Holiday-themed cartoons and comics, including

works by Carl Barks, Milton Caniff, Will Eisner, Chuck Jones, Walt Kelly, Thomas Nast, and Mort Walker.

• **Words & Pictures Museum**, 140 Main St., Northampton, MA. Call for updates on current exhibits: (413) 586-8545. **Current exhibits: Creeper & Eerie with Richard Corben** exhibit, through January 1999 at the Words & Pictures Museum, in Northampton, Mass. Curated in collaboration with *Heavy Metal* magazine, this exhibit features a wide variety of Corben's work, including paintings which mix oils, acrylics, airbrush, and markers. The exhibit is not intended for children. **Marvel Knights** exhibit of super-hero art by Marvel and Event artists, including Joe Jusko, Jae Lee, Jimmy Palmiotti, Joe Quesada, Mark Texeira, and Bernie Wrightson, through January 1999. The exhibit will showcase work from each of the four Marvel Knights titles: *Black Panther*, *Daredevil*, *Inhumans*, and *Punisher*, including covers, interior work, and scripts, as well as such Event comics as *Ash* and *Painkiller Jane*. **Spotlight on Gary Gianni and Robert E. Howard's Solomon Kane**, through Dec. 14. The exhibit features Gianni's illustrations for *Wandering Star's* hardcover edition of Howard's *The Savage Tales of Solomon Kane*.

New comics scheduled to ship this week**Image Comics**

Battle Chasers Collected Ed. #1, \$5.95
Gen 13: Magical Drama Queen Roxy #2 (of 3), \$3.50
Wildstorm Fine Arts: The Gallery Collection, \$19.95

JNCO Comics

• *Goop* #1, \$1.99 (Oct)

Kitchen Sink Press

Spirit: The New Adventures #8, \$3.50

Marvel Comics

Avengers #12, \$2.99
Avengers: Under Siege, \$16.95
Conan: The Scarlet Sword #2 (of 3), \$2.99
Deadpool #24, \$1.99
Inhumans #3 (of 12), \$2.99
J2 #4, \$1.99

Marvel Remix: Fantastic Four #1 (of 3), \$2.99

Slingers #2 (two covers), \$1.99

Spider-Man: The Manga #25, \$2.99

Warlock #3 (of 4), \$2.99

Webspinners: Tales of Spider-Man #1, \$2.99

Wolverine #133, \$1.99

X-Force #86, \$1.99

• *X-Man* #47, \$1.99 (Nov. 15-21)

X-Men: Liberators #3 (of 4), \$2.99

Small Press Expo

• *SPX '98*, \$4.95 (Sep)

Viz Communications

Mobile Police Patlabor Vol. 2: Basic Training, \$15.95
No Need for Tenchi Part Six #1, \$3.25
Ranma 1/2 Part Seven #10 (of 14), \$2.95

Shipping notes and updates

• **Confirmed shipping:** We have received confirmation that the following titles have shipped and should be available in stores. This reflects shipping information received through Nov. 5.

A List: Pulp Fiction #6, \$2.95 (Oct)

Wings Comics #5, \$2.95 (Sep)

ACG: ACG Halloween Horror Special #1, \$2.95 (Oct)

A Cop Called Tracy #1, \$2.95 (Sep)

Doomsday +1 #2, \$2.95 (Sep)

Forbidden Planets #1, \$2.95 (Oct)

Iron Corporal #1, \$2.95 (Oct)

Saigon Chronicles #1, \$2.95 (Sep)

Antarctic: Gold Digger #44, \$2.95 (Sep)

Arrow: Bill Bryan's Oz Collection #1, \$2.95 (Sep)

Dead #1, \$2.95 (Oct)

Authority: Hightop Ninja #3, \$2.95 (Sep)

Avatar: Cuda #1 (of 4), \$3.50 (3 spec. eds.: \$3.95, \$6, and \$25) (Oct)

Pandora/Widow: Arachnophobia, \$3.50 (2 nude eds., \$6) (Oct)

Shimmer #1, \$3.50 (nude ed., \$6) (Sep)

Threshold #9 (three covers), \$4.95 (nude ed., \$6) (Oct)

Caliber: King Zombie #1 (2 covers), \$2.95 (Jul)

Club 408: Timespell #2, \$2.95 (Sep)

Hall of Heroes: Hall of Heroes Halloween Horror Special '98, \$2.50 (Oct)

Harris: Vampirella: Hell on Earth #2 (of 3), \$2.95 (Oct)

New England: Tick: Lunny Bin Trilogy #2 (of 3), \$3.50 (Oct)

Radio: Furlough #69, \$2.95 (Sep)

Milk! #7, \$2.95 (Sep)

Re-Visionary: Carnal Comics: True Stories of Adult Film Stars: Zoe #1, \$3.50 (Sep)

Sirius: Broken Heroes #7, \$2.50 (Sep)

Sky Dog: Buzzboy #3, \$2.95 (Oct. 4-10)

Solson: Body Parts for the Artist, \$19.95 (Sep)

How to Draw the Halloween Girls, \$19.95 (Sep)

Westhampton: Handyburger, \$4.95 (Oct)

• **Nov. 8-14:** The following items have been added to publishers' shipping schedules for this week, in addition to those items listed in previous *CBG* Calendars.

Acclaim: *Turok: Adon's Curse*, \$4.95 (Oct. 25-31)

Drawn & Quarterly: *Homunculus* TPB, \$9.95 (Oct)

Image: *Channel Zero* #5, \$2.95 (Oct)

Lady Pendragon #1, \$2.50 (Nov)

Witchblade #27, \$2.50 (Oct)

Liar: More than Mortal: Truths & Legends #3, \$2.95 (Oct)

Plastic Spoon: *Exit 6* #2, \$2.95 (Nov)

Realm: *Battlestar Galactica: Search for Sanctuary* #2 (of 4), \$2.99 (Oct)

• **Nov. 15-21:** The following items have been added to publishers' shipping schedules for this week, in addition to those items listed in previous *CBG* Calendars.

DC: *Superman: The Dailies 1939-1942* (hardcover), \$75 (Oct. 11-17)

Marvel: *Captain America/Citizen V* '98, \$3.50 (Nov. 1-7)

Cancellations

The following items have been announced as canceled or postponed. If a publisher resolicits for any of these items, they will be listed again in the *CBG* Calendar.

Marvel: *Fantastic Four: Franklin's Adventures*, \$3.49 (Nov. 1-7)

Incredible Hulk: Project Hide, \$3.49 (Nov. 1-7)

Spider-Man Mysteries, \$3.49 (Nov. 1-7)

X-Men: Mutant Search R.U.17, \$3.49 (Nov. 1-7)

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Barry Smith. 1975. "Devil's Lake" 53x500. \$50
Al Williamson. 1978. Flash Gordon heavy wrinkles (12x24) 97/100. \$25

FANZINES

Berkeley Com. 1973-\$25; RBCC 138-\$8; All Star Comics Revue. 1975-\$25; Serial Pictorial 1 (Captain Marvel). 1965-\$15; Fandom Annual 2: 1969-\$45; Paragon 4. 1972. Newton, Steranko, Royer-\$25; ERBdom 89-\$9; Near Mint 16. 1981 San Diego Com-\$15; Berni Wrightson Catalog 1977-\$25; Collectors Showcase #1. 1970-\$25, #4. 1978-\$15; WE 105. WSA 1976-\$5; The Collector 17-\$15; Infinity 1. 1970. Kirby, Wrightson, Manning, Crandall-\$25; RBCC 143. Wolverton, Ditko. \$15; 144. Spielberg, Kirk, Bode-\$15. Comic World 7. All Superman 30's-40's-\$15. Pogo print. 1980-\$15. Creation Times 16-\$8; Graphic Showcase 2. 1969. Kaluta, Wrightson-\$25; The Collector Special. 1969. Foss, Schell, Hanley, Raymond-\$15; The Buyers Guide 6. 1971-\$15; The Collector 29. 1974-\$18. Falling for Stars 14 (1971) Stuntmen. \$9; Frazetta's Women-\$25; The Frazetta Portfolio-\$45; The Frazetta Index-\$15; Amazing World of DC Comics Special 1976 Superman Com issue-\$35; The Forbush Gazette 1 (1966) Gelb, Schell, Jutchinson, Lanz-\$25; Hot Stuff 2 (1975) Barr, Vosburg, Morrow, Adams-\$9; Capt. George 30. All G.A. Cap. America-\$15; 1978 Comic Art Com Program. Jones, Kaluta, Smith, Wrightson-\$15; Eerie 125. All Corben Adams special-\$20; Sense of Wonder 12. Schell, C. Beck, Krenkel, Newton, Manning (1972)-\$15; Fantastic Fanzine 12 (1970) Newton, Hickman, Buscema-\$9; Dallas Com Bulletin 8-\$5; Collectors Showcase 4 (1977)-\$9; Screen Facts 3 (1967) MGM Tarzan-\$9; The Wonder of Comics 1 (1959) ditto-\$50; HPB News 2 (1965)-\$15; NYCom Comics (1966) Ted White-\$15; CAPA-alpha #1-28 set only \$750; Comic Reader 70 (1968)-\$6; Wonderful World of Komix 1 (1964) - Miller Green, Acord Weingott, Simpson-\$35; Comic Book Fan 2 (1960) ditto-\$35; Comic Reader 32 (1964) ditto - \$20; Comic Comments 14 (1967) foss-\$25; Serial Quarterly 2 (1966)-\$15; Famous Horrors of the Screen-Frankenstein \$50; Mediascene mix sections (5) #32-38-\$10; Rocket's Blast/Comiccollector 46, 47, 49, 53, 55, 60-\$15/67, 68, 70, 72, 73-\$9/95, 96, 97, 98, 102, 103, 105, 106, 108, 109, 111, 112-\$8/116, 117, 119, 120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125, 127, 130, 147, 148, 153-\$7/149: The Buyer's Guide 8-\$25, 28-\$15; Monster Times 29. 3683-\$15; Mediascene-\$11; Cascade Comics 1/12-\$3; Aeon Critic 6. 1-82. SF Review 29. 3683-\$15; Cartoon News 11-\$5; Fort Mudge (1973 Reamy)-\$5; The Reel Scene 2 (1963)-\$5; Fantasy Collector 65 (1964)-\$10; Graphic Masters Comic Art Catalog-\$9; Mr. A. 1 (1973)-\$12; The Comic Reader 151, 155, 159, 129, 191, 192, 198-\$2/6; Yikes 3-54; Afta 2-\$5; Graphco (Lanz)-\$12; Barks Collector 29-\$5; Comic Art Illustrated Gallery 1975-\$15; Animania 20-\$8; Duckburg Times 14-\$6; Wooley Auction Gallery 1983-\$6; Allen Critic 5-55; Afta 1-55; Geis 2, 3-\$2/6; Original Art Collector-\$9; Flash Gordon 72, 73 (italian)-\$55; Questar 2-\$3; Mediascene 20-\$9; Fantasy Newsletter 16-\$4; Collectors Showcase 13 (1979)-\$9; Prince Valiant 1-55; Jungle Jim 1-55; Basil Wolverton GJDRKZLXCWQ Comics (1973)-\$15; Odd 12-\$9; Weirdo 2-\$9; The Wrapper 107-\$3; Capt. Georges Whiz Bang 17-55; Steranko's Talon one sheet-\$9; Koko Takes a Trip to the Moon-\$4; Marcinko \$54; Small Talk 19 (Glen Johnson 1968)-\$9; Fantasy Newsletter 28, 29-\$3/6; TCR 205-\$4; Cartoonists Profiles 41-\$3; BANG 15 (Spanish)-\$4; Nickelodeon 2 (Reamy)-\$9; Jack Kirby Treasury 2-\$15; Trumpet 4, 5, 7-\$8/6; Dallas Com 1, 2, 6, 7-\$4/6; Nostalgia News 14 (Herdon)-\$5; Cartoon News 11-\$5; Fort Mudge Most 14 (pogo)-\$4; Flug 6 (1977)-\$4; Introducing James Branch Cabell (1970)-\$5; Hero Hobby 20, 14-\$5; Fantasy Collector 132 (1969)-\$9; The Comic Reader 71, 72-\$3/6; EON 3 (1969) Kubert, Ditko)-\$12; Giftwiff 20 (1966 French 0-\$15; American Cartoonist Hal Foster-\$9; The Collector 27 (1973) Ditko, Jones, C.C. Beck, Newton, Kirby)-0-\$15; Gamut 1 (Eisner, Wrightson, Jones, Adams)-\$15; Infinity 5 (Kaluta, Wrightson, Williamson, Bode, Adams, Corben, Morrow)-\$25; The Eye 1, 2-\$15/6; Fantasy Crossroads 8 (Corben)-\$12; Funnyworld 12 (Barks)-\$15; Seraphim 4 (Jones, Krenkel, Wolverton)-\$12; Star Studied Comics 1-15 set-\$500, 13, 15512/6; Alter Ego 1-9 set-\$500; Secret Agent Corrigan 2-\$9; K Scope V. 2, 3, V3, 1-\$5/6; Okefenokee Star 2 (Pogo)-\$5; Comic Fandom Archive 1-55; Infinity 4 (Corben, Frazetta, Williamson, Jones, Wrightson, Krenkel)-\$25; Graphic Story World 6, 8, 9-\$5/6; Amazing World of DC Comics 7 (Superman)-\$25; 13-\$10; 14 (JLA)-\$20 RBCC 66-\$9, 134, 135, 137, 139, 141, 142, 144-\$7/6; SF Review 42, 37, 38-\$5/6; Dallas Com 1-82; Bradbury Whispers from Beyond (Peacock 1972)-\$45; Old Bodkins (1965)-\$3; Russ Cochran Comic Art Auction 34-\$5; Saturdays World 3 (1967)-\$15; Foom 18 (Kirby)-\$12; Phantasmagoria 1-\$11; Promethian 5 (Crumb Metzger, Mossos)-\$15; Venture 3 (Adams,

Kaluta, Cirroco)-\$12; National Lampoon 3-\$5; Aqua Tron 3-\$15; Secret Agent Corrigan 1-55; Capa-alpha 1-28 set a set-\$500; E Ticket 14-\$5; Funnyworld 14, 15-\$12/6; 16-\$19; Near Mint 4 Caniff; 15 Buccaneers-\$5/6; 12 Buck Rogers; 13 George Evans; 18 Bob Powell; 22 Flash Gordon-\$9/6; 17 Joe Kubert; 19 Hal Foster-\$12/6; RBCC 151 Harlan Ellison special-\$14; 140-\$7; New Com 796 Program (special Barks issue)-\$15; Amazing World of DC Comics 16 Golden Age-\$15; 2-\$20; Storyboard 1-540; V3-\$5-\$5; Deja-Vu 1 (Jones Kaluta Wrightson)-\$20; Marvel Comics Index 88 Dan Devlin; 9B Dan Devlin; 2 Thor-\$312/6; 1 Spider-Man-\$25; Captain George 23/24 (64 Page Timely reprint)-\$15; Comic Book 1 (Hanley 1966)-\$12; Panels 1 (Eisner)-\$12; 2 (Barks)-\$15; Phase 1 (1971) Wrightson, Jones, Brunner, Morrow, Kaluta, Smith, Adams)-\$19; Hot Stuff 1 (1974) Corben-\$15; Reality (1971) Kaluta, Wrightson, Crandall, Chaykin, Brunner, Jones-\$25; ERBdom 59-\$9; Fantastic Fanzine 11 (Steankoo special)-\$12; Enterprise 1 (1968 good guy)-\$8; Betty Page Merry Christmas-\$15; Bondage 8 (James Bond 1980)-\$5; San Diego Com 1983-\$15; Funnyworld 20-\$12; Ripoff 12-\$5; Visions 1 With the Flaming Carrot by Bob Burden-\$45; Fantascene 4 (1977)-\$5; Storyboard 5, V2, #1, V3, #2-\$15/6; Cartoon Quarterly 1-55; Best of WD Comics 1952-\$10; Snow White Gladstone 50th-\$5; Wild #2 (1968) \$5

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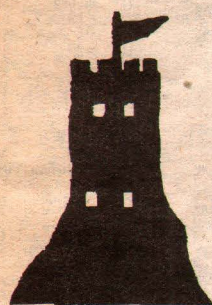
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Jang, 3145 Geary Blvd. #270, San Francisco, CA 94118. PH: 415-386-9036.

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Auditorium Expo Ctr. 700 W. 32nd St., SH: 10am-5pm, A: \$5. Bruce Schwartz,

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Dec 6 CO, Denver. Comic Con, Landmark Hotel. 455 S. Colorado Blvd., SH:

10am-5pm, A: \$4. Steve Way, 9618 S. Hackberry St., Highlands Ranch, CO

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Nov 20 CT, Stratford. CT's Premier Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Ramada

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155 Lighthouse Ave., Stratford, CT 06497. PH: 203-377-9567.

Nov 21 CT, Wallingford. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Our Lady of Fatima

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Nov 22 CT, Milford. Comic Book, BB Card & Beanie Baby Mania, Saint Gabriels

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for 1, \$90. for 2, \$125. for 3, A: free. Mrs. Aurella V. Wacks, PO Box 5078,

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Nov 28-29 CT, East Hartford. Comic Book, Toy & Collectibles Show, Pratt &

Whitney Aircraft Club. Exit 58 I-84, Roberts St. & Silver Ln., SH: 9am-3pm, T:

100, A: 99¢. Natalie Terranova, PH: 860-519-8355.

Nov 29 CT, East Hartford. Comic Book Convention, Elks Hall. 148 Roberts St.

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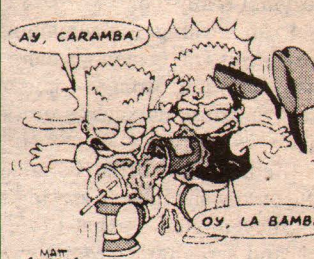
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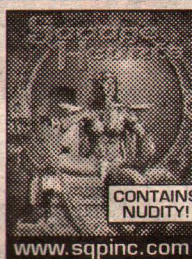
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Nov 21-22 FL, Orlando. Comic Book, Toy & Sports Card Show, Colonial High School Junior Cafeteria. 6100 Oleander, Sat. 10am-8pm, Sun. 10am-6pm, T. 100. George Smith, 16116 Hillside Cir., Montverde, FL 34756. PH: 407-469-3759.

Nov 22 FL, Orlando. Comic Books, Toys, Beanie Babies Collectible Show, Holiday Inn. 7900 S. Orange Blossom Trl., SH: 10am-4pm, F. \$33., A. \$4. Dale Burkhardt, 8130 Ict Dr., Orlando, FL 32822. PH: 407-658-6768 home or 229-5752.

Dec 12 FL, Ft. Lauderdale. Comic Book, Sports Card, Beanie Babies & Memorabilia Show, Coral Ridge Mall. 3200 N. Federal Hwy., SH: 10am-6pm, T. 8, F. \$75., A. free. Ron Tannebaum, PH: 954-916-3834.

Dec 12-13 FL, Miami. South Florida's Collectibles Show, Dade Cty. Expo Ctr. 107 Avenue & 24th St. (Coral Way), next to FL Int'l. Univ., SH: 10am-5pm, A. \$4.50, under 5 free. PH: 305-443-3000, 596-7795 or FAX: 305-595-0122.

Dec 18-20 FL, Pompano Beach. Comic Book, Sports Card, NASCAR, Beanie Babies & Memorabilia Show, Pompano Square Mall. Corner of Federal Hwy. & Copans Rd., SH: Fri. & Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 11am-6pm, T. 8, F. \$125., A.

free. Ron Tannebaum, PH: 954-916-3834.

GEORGIA

Nov 21-22 GA, Kennesaw. All Stars Comic Book, Sports Cards & Collectibles Show, Kinder's Outlet Mall. 3333 George Busbee Pky., I-75 & Chastain Rd. (Exit 117), SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T. 50-8, F. \$80., A. free. Jon White, 201 Thornwood Cr., Acworth, GA 30102. PH: 770-924-3491 home or 428-4980 Show Center.

Nov 21 GA, Augusta. Augustacon 29, Comic Books, Toys, Games & Videos Show, Holiday Inn West. I-20 & Washington Rd., SH: 10am-6pm, T. 30-6, F. \$75. for 1, \$200. for 3, A. \$3. Paul Rogers, 1631 Gordon Hwy., Augusta, GA 30906. PH: 706-793-7796.

Dec 5-6 GA, Kennesaw. All Stars Comic Book, Sports Cards & Collectibles Show, Kinder's Outlet Mall. 3333 George Busbee Pky., I-75 & Chastain Rd. (Exit 117), SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T. 50-8, F. \$80., A. free. Jon White, 201 Thornwood Cr., Acworth, GA 30102. PH: 770-924-3491 home or 428-4980 Show Center.

Dec 12-13 GA, Kennesaw. All Stars Comic Book, Sports Cards & Collectibles

Show, Kinder's Outlet Mall. 3333 George Busbee Pky., I-75 & Chastain Rd. (Exit 117), SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T. 50-8, F. \$80., A. free. Jon White, 201 Thornwood Cr., Acworth, GA 30102. PH: 770-924-3491 home or 428-4980 Show Center.

ILLINOIS

Nov 22 IL, Orland Park. Comic Book, Sports Card, Beanie Babies & Toy Show, Civic Ctr. 1 blk. W. of LaGrange Rd. (Rt. 45) at 147th St., SH: 9am-3pm, T. 85-6, F. \$30., A. \$1. John Leary, 9522 W. Shore Dr., Oak Lawn, IL 60453. PH: 708-423-1758.

Dec 6 IL, Oak Lawn. Comic Book, Sports Card, Beanie Babies & Toy Show, Fatima K of C. 5830 W. 95th St., SH: 9am-3pm, T. 40-8, F. \$25., A. \$1. John Leary, 9522 W. Shore Dr., Oak Lawn, IL 60453. PH: 708-423-1758.

Dec 6 IL, Springfield. ComicCon, Jaycee Activity Centre. 2525 S. 12th St., near the Bunn Park Gold Course, SH: 10am-4pm, T. 18, F. \$25. for 1, \$45. for 2, A. free. Alan Morton, PH: 309-657-1599 or Kevin, PH: 217-435-9625.

Dec 12 IL, Orland Park. Comic Book, Sports Card, Beanie Babies & Toy Show, Civic Ctr. 1 blk. W. of LaGrange Rd. (Rt. 45) at 147th St., SH: 9am-3pm, T. 85-6, F. \$30., A. \$1. John Leary, 9522 W. Shore Dr., Oak Lawn, IL 60453. PH: 708-423-1758.

Dec 12 IL, Summit. New & Old Collectibles Show, American Legion Hall. 6050 S. Harlem Ave., SH: 9am-3pm, A. \$2., under 12 free. Paul Maiellaro, PO Box 2376, Bridgeview, IL 60455. PH: 708-430-8107.

Dec 13 IL, Naperville. Comic Book & Action Figure Show, Radisson Hotel. Jct. Naper & Warrenville Rds. (just off I-88), SH: 10am-3pm, T. 8, F. \$45., A. \$2. Graham Crackers Comics, Jamie Graham, 1271 Rickert Dr., Naperville, IL 60540. PH: 630-355-4310.

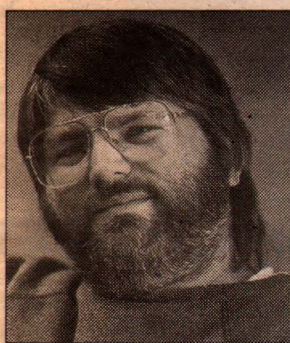
INDIANA

Nov 21-22 IN, South Bend. Multi-Hobby Collectibles Show, Brentwood Center, Hall A. 3900 Lincolnway W. (US 20), 1 mi. E. of Airport, SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T. 100, F. \$60. for 1, \$100. for 2, A. free. Gene F. Haberstick, PO Box 908, Goshen, IN 46527. PH: 219-533-1887 10am-midnight.

Nov 22 IN, Indianapolis. Comic Book, Sports, Non-Sports, Die Cast Racing Cars & Collectibles Show, Holiday Inn East. 6990 E. 21st St., SH: 9am-4pm, T. 45, F. \$30. for 1, \$45. for 2, A. free. Mark Lopez, PH: 317-894-1115.

(Continues on Page 49)

Looking at the Legion from the inside out



"My first issue was #38, the infamous 'Earth Blows Up' issue, which I quickly discovered that my new boss hated and wanted killed."

— KC Carlson

By KC Carlson

I thought I was through with The Legion. I really did.

I ran, kicking and screaming, after editing The Legion for more than five years and through some of the most controversial stories in its long history.

(Actually, the little KC angel sitting on my shoulder is kicking me to tell the *real* story — that I ran, kicking and screaming, from New York City, not from The Legion, which I actually miss terribly. But we make our choices.)

And I *did* write at least two Legion stories in the past 12 months. So no one ever *really* escapes from The Legion's clutches. Not Jim Shooter. Not Keith Giffen. Not even Paul Levitz.

Anyway, being in semi-retirement from The Legion should theoretically lend some distance in looking honestly at its history and why it's remained such a popular feature for more than (can it be?) 40 years. And I also find it semi-ironic that I am the one asked to do this, as I am

one of the few who are usually blamed for supposedly doing away with much of that history. But, as you'll see, nothing is really as it seems with The Legion.

But that's getting ahead of the story.

Humble beginnings. The Legion of Super-Heroes wasn't much of a Legion when it made its debut in *Adventure Comics* #247 (Apr 58). Only three members were present: Cosmic Boy, Saturn Girl, and Lightning Boy (soon to become Lightning Lad). The three super-powered teenagers originally came from a 30th-century future to observe Superboy, the legendary 20th century hero who inspired the formation of their Super-Club. The future-teens monitored several tests for admission into The Legion, all of which The Boy of Steel failed due to unusual circumstances. Rather than give excuses, Superboy sucked it up and took the failure as the hero he was, only to discover that this had been the *real* test and that he had passed with fly-



By the time Supergirl was approached for membership in *Action Comics* #267 (Aug 60), The Legion had added a few members.

ing colors: Superboy was now a Legionnaire. This story, written by Otto Binder and illustrated by Al Plastino, was obviously just another Superboy story for the creators.

But Superman creator Jerry Siegel saw something in the Legion concept and brought the characters back for a second appearance in 1959 in *Adventure* #267. Then, in 1960, the Legion's third appearance was in the Supergirl strip in *Action Comics* #267, where the Girl of Steel was turned down for membership after she was temporarily turned into

an adult by red kryptonite. (Tough union.)

(It was this snotty treatment of Superboy and Supergirl which caused a young John Byrne to bear a grudge against The Legion from reading these stories as a child. Can this be the reason The Legion was written out of Byrne's revamping of The Man of Steel in 1986? Probably not, but it sure has fanned the fires of Legion fandom over the years.)

The Legion made frequent guest appearances in the other Superman titles over the next couple of years, slowly gaining in popularity with each new appearance. Finally, in September 1962, The Legion began its own regular series in *Adventure* #300, displacing "Tales of the Bizarro World." This time The Legion irritated young Tom Peyer, a major Bizarro fan who got over his grudge by the time he started writing The Legion in 1994.

The Legion series got off to a jarring start when, in *Adventure* #304, founding member Lightning Lad was killed in the line of duty. And he didn't come back in the next issue. Or the next. Or the next!

This was a shocking turn of events in 1963: Lead characters just didn't die!

(Actually Lightning Lad *did* come back a few issues later, due to the heroic sacrifice of Chameleon Boy's pet Protty. And then Cham got a *new*, virtually identical pet, named Protty II, so ultimately it all wasn't that big a deal. But a few years later Ferro Lad *really* did die — and stayed dead — and *that* was a shocker! And over the years, many more Legionnaires would be laid to rest on Shanghalla, the graveyard planetoid.)

The Legion chugged along for several years, wavering back and forth between highly competent science-fiction stories and some flat-off-the-wall looniness, but with the same charm of the other child-like Superman titles under the editorship of Mort Weisinger. But in 1966, there were winds of change for comics in general and The Legion, spe-



From its beginnings with three members in *Adventure Comics* #247 (Apr 58, left), The Legion of Super-Heroes recruited members over the years as demonstrated by this group shot by a number of Legion artists for *Legion of Super-Heroes* #300 (2nd series, Jun 83, right).

cifically.

A teen-ager writing teen-agers. When 13-year-old Jim Shooter needed money badly to support his family and realized that people actually got paid for writing comics, he whipped up a Legion plot idea in loose breakdown form and sent it to Weisinger. Mort bit and paired up Shooter with long-time Superman artist Curt Swan (who executed the pencils largely from Shooter's child-like breakdowns), and The Legion feature really became something special.

Shooter was a smart kid, or at least smarter than many of the DC editors of that day. All he did was read the competition's comics. He saw the energy and pathos that Stan Lee was bringing to Marvel's characters and reasoned that he could do the same for The Legion. Soon, The Legion had personality — both in characterization through dialogue from Shooter and through Swan's subtle redesign of the characters, giving each individual looks.

But this "Golden Age" of Legion history eventually fell to editorial indifference. In 1969, Supergirl took over *Adventure*, and The Legion was unceremoniously dumped into the back-up of *Action*, where it managed 13 appearances and then it was gone.

Oh sure, The Legion popped up four months later in the back-up slot in *Superboy*, but it was obvious that Editor Murray Boltinoff had no idea what to do with this series. The Legion limped along in the back of *Superboy* for the next two years.

The fans to the rescue. Then, the strangest thing happened — the fans saved the series!

In *Superboy* #182 (Feb 72) a Legion fan named Mike Flynn had a letter printed in the lettercol, calling for a formation of a Legion of Super-Heroes fan club. The response was overwhelming, and before long there was a Legion fanzine: *The Legion Outpost*. And once the Legion fans got organized, Boltinoff never knew what hit him — he was overwhelmed with mail about The Legion, so much that he begged off in one column. But overall, Boltinoff was smart enough to give his fans what they wanted: more — and more regular — stories of The Legion.

In April 1972, artist Dave Cockrum began work on the Legion series, heralding the rebirth of The Legion as an ongoing concern. Cockrum was a highly motivated artist, bringing the strip a daring new visual presentation, including updated costume treatments. By September 1973, The Legion had effectively taken over Superboy's own series for the second time. (They had bumped solo Superboy stories out of *Adventure* several years earlier.) Although it had appeared on the cover since #197, at #231 the title officially became *Superboy and the Legion of Super-Heroes* and in #259 was shortened to *Legion of Super-Heroes*, when Superboy resigned from the team and left his own series.

The parade of creators. Lots of great creators passed through The Legion's hallways during this time period. Shooter left



Curt Swan's art defined the look of the Legion for several years, including most of the series' run in *Adventure Comics*. In addition, the Legion stories introduced new concepts to the DC universe, making the Legionnaires more three-dimensional by aging them, having them get married, and letting them die.

the series and then returned to it following a five-year gap. Cockrum didn't stay long but made way for Mike Grell in his early years. Joe Staton, Cary Bates, and Jim Starlin contributed memorable runs. And *Superboy and the Legion of Super-Heroes* #231 showcased the first Legion story from mega-fan Paul Levitz. Levitz also left the series after a short time but returned within a few years (in 1982), bringing with him the greatest Legion story ever — the "Great Darkness Saga," a sprawling five-part epic connecting The Legion more firmly to the rest of the DC universe by establishing Darkseid's presence in the 30th century.

Levitz' second era of The Legion also introduced the art of Keith Giffen, another artist who performed a complete visual makeover of the 30th century (including eye candy concepts still used in the series today). Giffen would take many leaves of absence over the next few years of the series, leaving Levitz firmly at the helm, but Giffen could never completely escape the call of The Legion, either, and returned frequently.

In 1989, after a long and extremely successful run, Levitz left The Legion, when his executive duties at DC became more demanding and, needing to devote more of his "real" time to his family, he set The Legion aside. His successor on the strip was none other than Giffen, along with co-conspirators Tom and Mary Bierbaum, who also came to the series with a strong Legion fan-

dom background.

Giffen wanted another radical re-think of The Legion and convinced DC to start the long-running series over with #1 (actually the fourth volume of comics series to bear the name of The Legion, including a short-lived reprint series and a previous re-start of the series under DC's multiple publishing format program in 1984.) This series became noted in LSH fandom as Vol. 4 — or The "Five Years Later" Legion.

In a stroke of genius (or madness), Giffen skipped the series' continuity ahead in time five years — actually making the series 1,005 years ahead of the 20th century DC universe. But that was the least of the confusion. Because of the five-year gap, fans had no idea what had happened to many of their favorite characters during that period, as Giffen and the Bierbaums took their time getting around to everybody. This was not surprising. By this time The Legion had more than 100 characters wandering around including The Legion proper, The Substitute Legion, The Legion Academy, other hero groups such as The Wanderers (who briefly had their own series), and dozens of Legion foes.

And the confusion wasn't all the creator's fault. A "turf war" was going on behind the scenes at DC, and The Legion got caught in the middle. When John Byrne remade Superman's history, The Legion was eliminated from that background, when there was



no Superboy.

Several stories tried to clear up the mess but just made things worse, and, by 1989, no one was really sure what was left of The Legion's past regarding Superman, and the editors of each character had strong disagreements over what "was" and what "should be." Needless to say, The Legion ultimately got the short end of the stick.

But this didn't stop Giffen from making The Legion even more confusing, by creating the SW6 Legion, exact duplicates of The Legionnaires, except they were teen-agers. Or were the adults the replicas? (And this was years before the Spider-Clone story!) No one knew for sure, but, suddenly, there were two versions of virtually every character running around this already-overpopulated series.

Enter ... me! To become the editor of The Legion, I had to drive several thousand miles over a five-day period and had to meet several dozen Legion fans, as well as several of the creators, without telling them that I was going to be the new head honcho. Mike Carlin from DC had called me the same day that I had quit my previous job (funny how news travels fast in this business) and told me that DC was having trouble keeping people on The Legion titles and had remembered that I was a big Legion fan.

Would I be interested? Duh.

When should I be there? Well, there was a technicality: DC was still in the transition between Dick Giordano's retirement and Mike's ascent to Group Editor. Mike technically couldn't hire me — I had to talk to Dick first, and Dick was away at conventions for the next couple of weeks.

No problem. I'd just go to the convention and talk to him. (I was planning a road trip, anyway.) So I drove from my home in central Wisconsin to Charlotte (stopping on the way to visit Beau Smith at the then-Eclipse Sales Ranch in West Virginia to rope a few steers). The strange thing was that the Charlotte convention that year was host to the Ten-Year reunion of the Legion Fan Club and The Legion Outpost.

And the place was thick with dozens of Legion fans. And Legion creators, including Tom and Mary Bierbaum, Chris Spouse, and Tom McCraw. I was more than likely going to be their new editor on the Legion titles, but I couldn't say anything to them because it wasn't a done deal. It was a very strange weekend for me, which just got weirder after I talked to Giordano. After welcoming me back to the fold, Dick mock-yelled at me, "Why are you talking to me? Mikey's the new boss."

Road trip: Phase Two. Next stop, New York City. Monday morning. Mike Carlin's office. "You're hired. Be back here in a week."

KC's career comments

The Cool:

1. The Legion get-togethers at Chicago Con. Dozens of Legion fans would come together with the creators for totally non-stress *fun*! In 1996, we took over an entire lobby and, in 1997, Paul Levitz was so impressed with the dinner and the intelligence of the fans, that he picked up the tab for more than 60 people! That one event impressed me on so many levels!

2. The "timejump" stories. They were goofy and my bosses didn't understand them (not sure that I did either, now that I think about it), but I loved them. I had a wry smile on my face all through *Pleasantville*, knowing that we were there first. And Tom Peyer cracked me up with the Legion as the original Justice Society. Too bad we never got to do the Legion as cavepeople story, though ...

3. Becoming friends with the creators: Sure, "doing" the actual comics is great, and having the fans love you is not exactly horrible, but the real satisfaction of my job as Legion editor was helping — no matter how small my actual involvement was — the people I worked with on the series have a better life.

During my tenure, these folks fell in love, got married, raised children, bought houses and cars (and toys!), advanced their careers, and made dreams become reality. In turn, these people inspired me and showed me that it's possible to have a life beyond living in a big city and editing comic books. (Not that there's anything wrong with that.) This is my thanks to them. You know who you all are.

4. Building the life. I met my fiancée through the Legion. Johanna Draper approached me at a convention in Atlanta a couple of years back and thoughtfully told me why she didn't like the Legion and why she was dropping the series. An hour later, after she graciously allowed me to talk her out of it, I had a new friend. And later (still on the convention circuit) we discovered that we had much more than just the Legion in common. Possessing a bril-

liant and quick mind, Johanna's seen me through a number of rough times and been inspiring in all the right ways. And in the course of writing this article, we became officially engaged and bought a house (it's been a busy week). We're still discussing whether to use the Legion Wedding Sticks for our ceremony.

The Regrets (I have a few ...):

1. Not working head-to-head with Keith Giffen. When I started on the Legion, I could tell that Keith was frustrated with any number of things (too many different editors on *Legion*, for one), so I wasn't surprised when he said he wanted to go. But I always suspected that he really didn't want to leave. I'll always wonder if that was a crucial "diversion point" for the Legion — and what its history might have been if other things had happened (or not happened).

2. Getting Paul Levitz to do a story for *Legion of Super-Heroes* #100 (that's not the regret part). Unfortunately, I was in over my head trying to get *Secret Files* off the ground and really didn't get to put in the time that I wanted to with him (besides being totally intimidated). He did an excellent story without me, though. Plus he was the one who snagged Walt Simonson. And I'll be apologizing forever for the credit snafu on the Table of Contents in that issue.

3. Not finishing up *JLA: The Nail*. Not a Legion thing, but a major regret, nonetheless. Working with Alan Davis and Mark Farmer will be a major high point in my life. As a fan, I thought Alan was born to draw the DC characters and was personally frustrated that he did so much (brilliant) work for other publishers. So when I found out that he had a proposal based on DC's Silver Age characters ... (sigh). And then when I found out that Mark was a *major* Legion fan and wanted to do covers with Alan ... (double sigh). Easily two of the most professional and subtly funny people I worked with. It was very much a pleasure, gents!



While a four-issue reprint series was the Legion's first #1 issue, the team has only had two other first issues that began ongoing series in its 40-year history.

Mike also made me agree to a double super-secret non-official condition of the job — I had to stay for three years. The reasons were two-fold: First, DC had gone through three Legion editors in three years and wanted some stability. Second, I had left DC before in 1990, mostly because I really disliked living in New York (being a good Midwestern boy), and Mike wanted to make sure I would stick around this time. But I knew that Mike knew he couldn't keep me there forever. All told, I edited the Legion comics, among others, for more than five years — and regretfully left DC again last year when New York started closing in on me again.

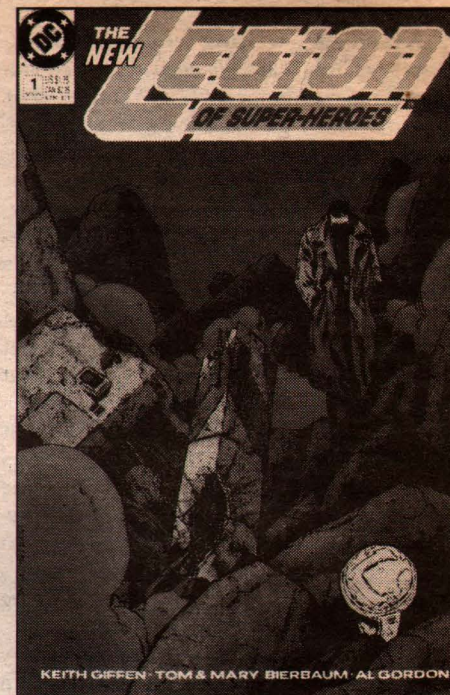
I finished the road trip by driving north to visit Mark Waid in Buffalo and then drove back to Wisconsin over the top of the Great Lakes through Canada. Six days later, I drove back to New York with a bed strapped to the roof of my car.

Before I officially started editing The Legion, I had to make my first major decision regarding The Legion. The previous penciller had decided to move on, and the series needed a replacement — *fast*! I received a FedEx in Wisconsin with samples from some new kid from Canada (hey, I was just there!), named Stuart Immonen.

"What do you think?" asked someone at DC.

"Are you crazy? Sign this guy up!" I said. It was one of the best decisions I ever made.

Departures and destruction. After I arrived in the office, I learned: 1) Keith Giffen had also decided to move on, so I was losing the key creator on the series; and 2) My first issue was #38, the infamous "Earth Blows Up" issue, which I quickly discovered that my new boss hated and wanted killed, even though it was due at the printer in two weeks, and though it involved some careful negotiations with Neil Gaiman over the use of the Death character in a cameo.



Shortly after the issue was published, I was witness to a seemingly endless stream of reporters going into Mike Carlin's office to get the goods on "The Death of Superman." My officemate, *Green Lantern* Editor Kevin Dooley, used to walk up to the press people and say (indicating me), "Hey, you should talk to that guy. He blew up the whole world!" It was going to be a fun job.

Everything old is new again. Reboot. That most hated word, at least in my mind. I knew that tampering with The Legion would be met with the same response as selling athletic shoes using Beatles' songs. But it had to be done. DC wasn't happy with the direction of the series, and sales were falling. But it also (at first) didn't want a radical restructure for the feature. That had already been done with the "Five Year Gap" version of the series, but unfortunately the good work there was shaken up numerous times by various editorial conflicts. It seemed that whenever DC made a major change to any of its other characters (most notably Superman), Legion continuity would also take a hit. By the early 1990s, that continuity was covered with bandages and splints.

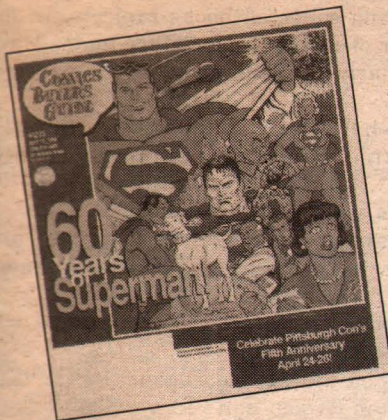
And then there were those SW6 characters. They were youthful, optimistic versions of the then dark, moody, and mostly adult Legion. Their introduction into the series was a brilliant stroke. It was also confusing as hell, with two totally different teams of Legionnaires running around.

The young SW6 characters also pointedly spelled out one of the major problems of the Legion series — at least to this editor: The Legion had drifted away from its original concept — teen-age super-heroes in an optimistic future. The Legion were now adult characters, with children and families of their own. And the future they lived in was anything but optimistic.

Didn't the fans of the 20th century DC universe need an optimistic future ahead of

(Continues on Page 42)

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LEGION

(From Page 40)

them? What good is it fighting for a future that's apparently *worse* than what you're struggling to defeat?

Deep down, I didn't want to change anything, either. I loved The Legion and had personally come to terms with all the changes over the years. But there was a job to be done.

(One of the hardest aspects to talk about regarding working in comics, is something I call "growing a professional attitude." It's a specialized problem that occurs when an individual begins working in a field that s/he is a fan of.

Because you love what you are doing and have developed deep-seated opinions about it, you sometimes become blinded to what is happening around you — you're personally having so much fun that you don't want it to stop. And comics are meant to be fun — but they're also a business, and (gulp) money has to be made to continue to publish. The best people working in comics are the folks who do realize that it's a business, as well — from artists who educate themselves in marketing and negotiating the distribution chain, to business people who never lose their love or respect for the comics.

I never knew for sure where I fit in this equation, although folks told me that, if I was that concerned about it, then I must be reasonably balanced about it. And I had an advantage, working for many years on the so-called "business" side of the business. For me, the stories and characters worked on my soul. When I read a great comic book, I could feel it in my gut (and everywhere else) logic, continuity, commerciality — resonated in my head. After getting my bearings as Legion editor, the back of my head would constantly tingle. I loved The Legion, but my brain was telling me something wasn't quite right.)

Reboot reverberations. Mark Waid, Tom McCraw, and I have related over and over at conventions and interviews and Legion dinners the story of how the LSH was "re-booted" (never our term, I recall, although I may be wrong).

As for me, I unfortunately remember few of the details, other than that it wasn't a decision made in haste — the three of us discussed it frequently for most of a year. All of that discussion revolved around "fixing" the current continuity. And after months of going in circles, it was decided that the Legion continuity could not — and ultimately, should not — be "fixed."

What would be done is that the current continuity would come to a stop, tied in with "Zero Hour" — partly conceived (by me, anyway) as a vehicle to actively include The Legion in a major crossover for the first time since *Crisis on Infinite Earths* (which was, coincidentally, the source of several of The Legion's continuity problems). We took great pains to simply stop the old continuity — not eliminate it — although several vocal Legion fans simply did not want to acknowledge the evidence that was actually in the story. And the debate

still continues to rage on the Internet, as I suspect it will until the real 30th Century.

Why? Why the re-boot? Or why do people love the Legion? I like to think they're all intertwined.

Everything I love about The Legion of Super-Heroes can be summed up in a simple, high-concept phrase: Super-powered teen-agers in space in an optimistic future. This is the essence of The Legion as it was created. Let's break it down.

Super-powered: A given. (Duh! It's comic books!) But the Legion took this to the extreme, where virtually everybody (even the animals!) had super-powers. So there was a character for every super-power that you could think of — for every power that you wanted — and a character you wanted to be or to know.

Teen-agers: Some of the best dramatic characters possible. Their lives change so fast — and to such extremes! From the aches and ecstasy of first loves to the disappointments of not always being the best. And not yet having the wisdom to deal with any of it!

In space: A world for dreamers. Between the exotic concepts of science fiction and the sheer curiosity of "What's out there?" And teen-agers are the best dreamers of all!

In an optimistic future: Once upon a time this would have read, simply, "The Future." But the advent and popularity of such dark genres as cyber-punk force the qualifier. Reading individual stories of a dark and grim future frequently excite and stimulate me, but overall I like — perhaps need — to know that the future is worth waiting and striving for.

Over the years there have been hundreds of Legion stories. There will be hundreds more. And, while many of them are solid and excellent stories in their own right, the very best have been the ones which adhered to the original concept.

(And I'm beginning to suspect — although lacking the actual knowledge — that the controversy over the "re-boot" will soon be moot, anyway. Aw, who am I kidding? Legion fans thrive on controversy!)

As long as people dream, there will always be a Legion of Super-Heroes for them to dream about.

Long live The Legion!

Since 1974, KC Carlson has worked in comics retailing (Truckers Union, Cover to Cover, Richmond Comix), mail-order (The Westfield Company), distribution (Capital City Distribution), magazine editing (CBG sister publication *Comics Retailer*), and comics editing (DC Comics: Legion of Super-Heroes titles, Superman titles, *Zero Hour*, *JLA: The Nail*, DC Secret Files and others). He's currently attempting to read and inventory the more than 40,000 comics he's barely had time to look at since then. He also wrote two fill-in issues for Legion titles in 1998.

The honest-to-gosh origin of Fortress Lad! (Who?)

In 1989, three years before I became the Legion editor, I first went to work for DC, mostly behind the scenes and coordinating collected books projects. In my spare time, I was watching over the shoulder of my next-door office-mate, Mark Waid, as he was using the Legion quite regularly (and uniquely) in the pages of *Secret Origins*.

Late one Friday, Mark started stalking the halls, tearing his hair out. Seems a planned origin story for the Legion Headquarters had run into editorial conflicts and had had to be shelved.

But Mark still needed a headquarters origin story — and he needed it fast!

Now, in those days, Mark was regularly dealing with one crisis or another, and I had learned that to get him back to Earth, heavy doses of humor and lunacy were needed.

So, when Mark stormed into my office, asking, "What am I going to do?" I was ready for him.

Totally (I swear) tongue-in-cheek, I suggested that, if the Legion HQ could no longer be Superbaby's rocketship from Krypton (if you don't know, don't ask — you'll just hurt yourself), then maybe the HQ was from a planet of sentient buildings. There were certainly other strange buildings in the Legion's history, I figured, but this was surely so ludicrous that an editor of Mark's caliber would see it as the joke it was.

In fact, Mark *did* laugh. For about 10 seconds. Then he got a funny, glazed look in his eyes and walked away, looking for a Diet Coke. I didn't think about it. Until Sunday.

I answered my phone at home on Sunday night, and Mark didn't give me a chance to say anything but "Hello."

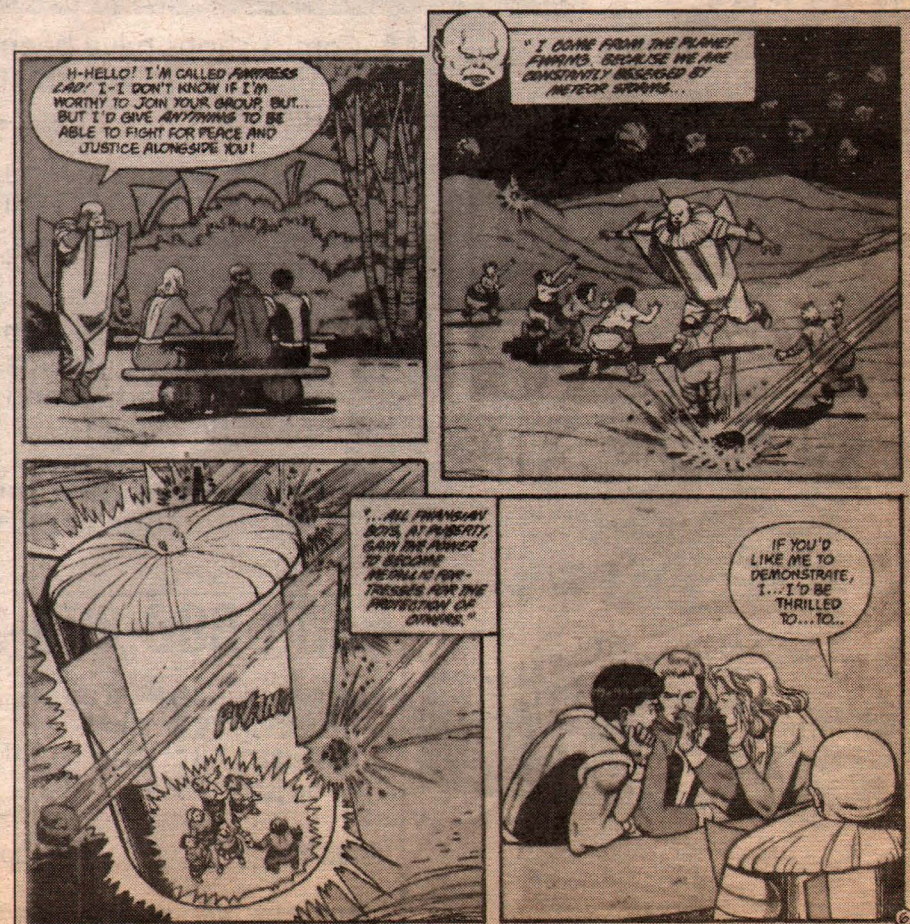
"Hi, it's Mark. Gerry Jones and I have been talking about your LSH HQ story idea and we love it, and Gerry's going to have the script ready tomorrow, and Curt Swan is going to pencil, and it's going to be great. Thanks a lot. See you tomorrow. Bye."

I hung up. Obviously Mark had had too many Diet Cokes.

A couple of weeks later, Mark showed me the boards for the revised origin story. My dopey idea had been turned into a character named Fortress Lad, and Gerry and Curt had turned in a story that actually brought a tear to my eye [*Spoiler Warning: If you haven't read this classic, don't finish reading KC's sentence; try to locate a copy; you need to check it out.*], as Fortress Lad sacrificed his sentience at the end to become the Legion's Headquarters. Later, after the story was published, I noticed that Mark had added a "creator" credit for me as the creator of Fortress Lad. Oh. My. God.

I've been living it down ever since. (And still no action figure royalties!)

— KC Carlson



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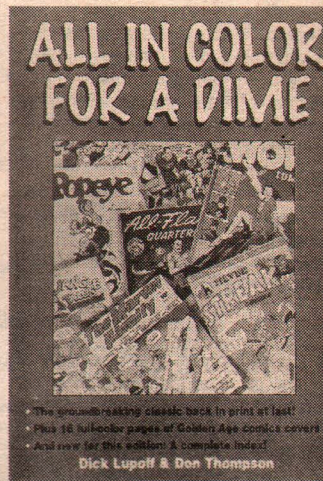
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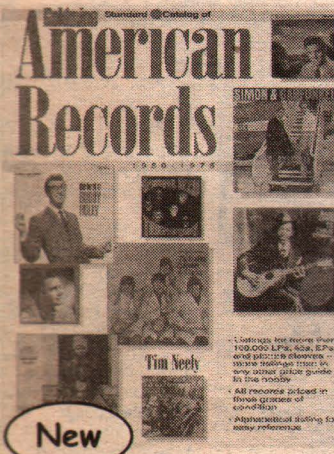


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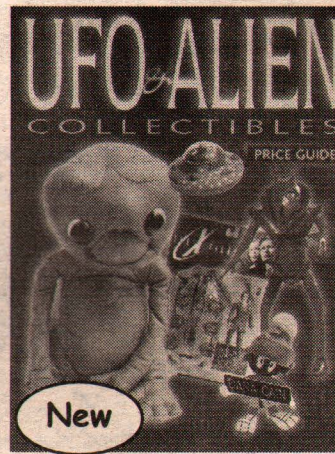
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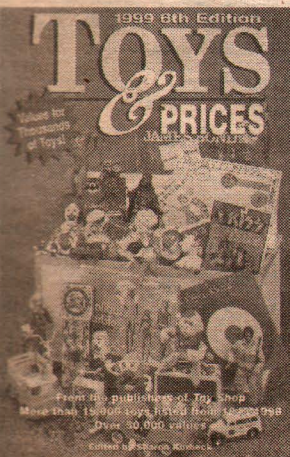
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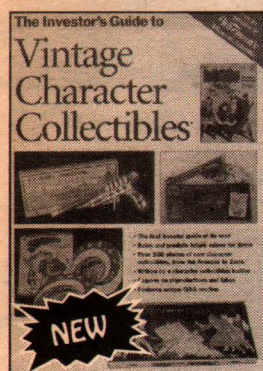
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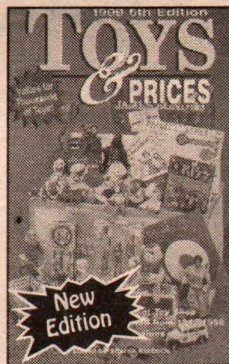


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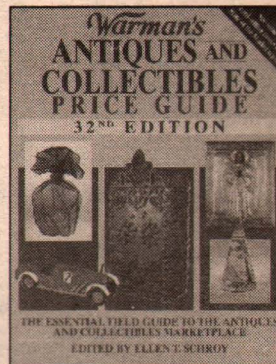
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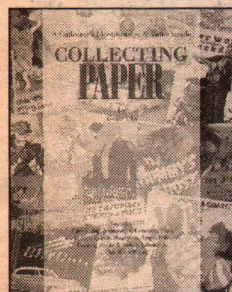
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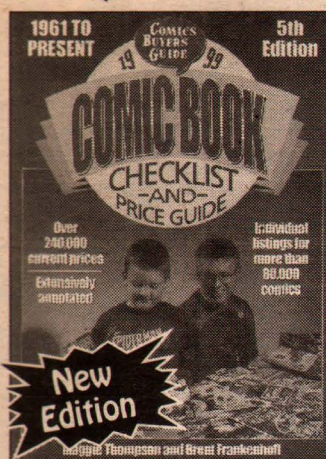
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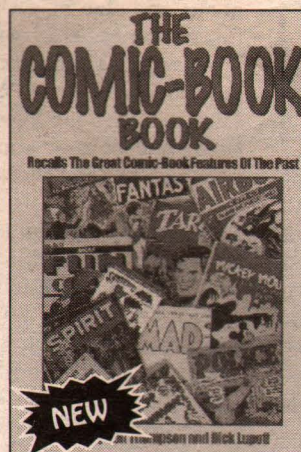


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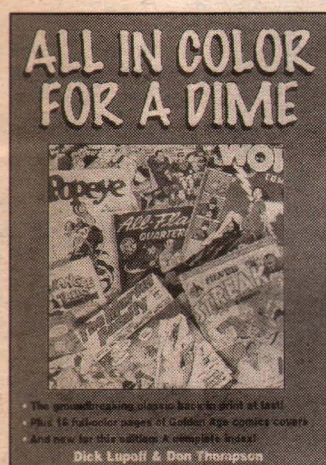
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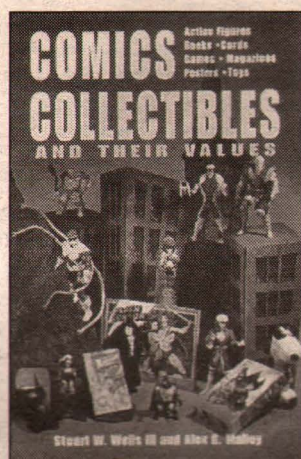
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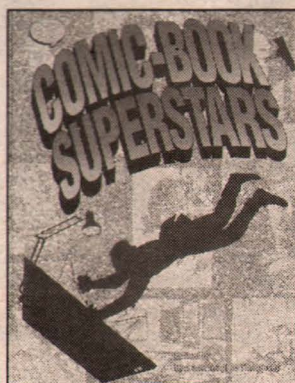
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POV

POINT OF VIEW

BY Mark EVANIER



One of my favorite comedians is a wickedly witty gent named Pete Barbutti. I met him at *The Tonight Show* one night when I was trespassing backstage and he was making one of his umpteen guest appearances with the much-revered Mr. Carson. Pete was one of Johnny's favorites, too.



By Maggie Thompson
• *The Four Immigrants Manga: A Japanese Experience in San Francisco, 1904-1924* by Henry (Yoshitaka) Kiyama is translated and annotated by Frederik L. Schodt (1998, Stone Bridge Press, \$12.95). It was Schodt's *Manga! Manga!* that introduced many American readers to the scope of Japanese comics several years ago, and he's done a terrific job of making this fascinating compilation accessible to the casual reader and the student of history and sociology.

Few readers today will have any idea of the experiences and the viewpoints expressed in these humorous strips. The sample panel here comes at a point in which two of the four immigrants have worked as emergency labor forces following the San Francisco earthquake. Schodt has provided the typeset translations of the Japanese script; the portions of the original strips which Kiyama lettered in English are in his original hand.

It's fascinating, upsetting, compelling, informative — and based on material created more than a decade before comic books. There's the returning veteran of World War I making his plans: "My next strategy's to buy some land, marry a white woman, and build a home. But to do that I have to become a citizen, so the next stop's City Hall." Schodt notes, "Most of the elements of his plan — to buy land, marry a white woman, and obtain citizenship — were illegal at this time." Don't miss this.

But as much as Johnny and the audiences loved Pete, no one loved him the way Johnny's band loved him. Pete is a fine musician, and many of his best routines involve the piano or the accordion or some other instrument, cleverly mixing a few notes with his endless repertoire of stories. I especially love the joke about the pig with the wooden leg. Whenever Pete knows I'm in his audience, he makes a point to tell it. Just for me.

About 10 years ago, Pete was headlining a revue called "Hot Lips" at the Paddlewheel Hotel in Las Vegas.

For those interested in such minutiae: The Paddlewheel was but one name on a certain Vegas edifice that has changed monikers about as often as the maids have changed the sheets — which is, like, once a year. At the time of this story, it had only recently become The Paddlewheel and, soon after, it became something else and then the Debbie Reynolds Hotel. It was recently sold to the World Wrestling Federation and I sure hope they use that motif when they change its name and theme. It would be great to have a casino where you're encouraged to play dirty and every hand of Blackjack is a grudge match.

Shortly after Pete opened there, he invited me to hang out with him for an evening. I have spent 20-some years working on TV shows, poaching in studios and on sets. I have never felt so immersed in the entertainment world as I did that night — and that is not a joke.

The show consisted of Pete, a small jazz combo, a magician, and six beautiful female dancers whose collective wardrobe probably involved less cloth than any one of my handkerchiefs. The same showroom also hosted a Chippendales-style show called *The Male Express*.

All of these performers were crammed into three diminutive dressing rooms backstage. Pete's was about the size of a four-drawer filing cabinet, whereas the

dancers' dressing rooms were each about the size of a three-drawer filing cabinet. They were the kind of quarters that acts sometimes describe as "a Roach Motel with a star on the door" — except that these had neither stars nor doors on which to hang them.

To make things even cozier, Pete had to share his cubicle with the band, the magician, and two ducks and about 20 doves that mysteriously appeared during the magician's act. Literally a third of the room's floor plan was occupied by airline-style pet transports in which he housed his wildlife.

So you have to envision this scene. Pete, the four musicians, the magician, the doves, the ducks and I were all crammed into a space barely large enough for the famous Barbutti cigar. I was sitting on an old crate, listening to Pete tell glorious tales of working Vegas. Pete has worked with everyone — Frank, Dino, Sammy, everyone — and is one of the world's best storytellers.

Whenever I glanced to my left (or into Pete's make-up mirror), I found myself gazing into a small side room wherein five totally nude male body-builders were oiling up one another. Far better was the view to the east, which featured six completely unclad showgirls putting on make-up, showering, doing each others' hair, etc. Every minute or two, a naked person would run through, since, to get anywhere in this place, you had to go through Pete's dressing room.

If the hotel owners had dumped "Hot Lips" and charged a two-drink minimum to sit where I was sitting, they'd still own the place.

I, being a seasoned show biz professional, attempted to act as though I was extremely jaded about all this — as though I was bored silly watching beautiful women shower. I did my best to focus on Pete's wonderful stories and to turn off my peripheral vision. His stories were so wonderful, I almost wished I weren't surrounded by spectacular physiques (and waterfowl) so that I could give the anecdotes my undivided attention.

As if all this weren't distraction enough, the magician was seated less than 2.5 inches from me and was attempting to prep for his act. This, mostly consisted of tying up doves with thread and cramming them into various nooks of his coat and body. This is diffi-

The magical Barbutti



cult to do under any circumstances, and doubly difficult with as little elbow-space as he had in the Roach Motel with neither star nor door.

What made it triply difficult was that the magician was trying to accomplish all this without letting me see precisely what he was doing.

I wasn't spying on him; honest, I wasn't. Of all the things I had to look at just then, dove-bondage was easily the least interesting. But the magician kept twisting and turning, trying to shield what he was doing — and I certainly understood why.

A large part of magic, after all, involves secrecy, though not absolute secrecy. We don't believe the lady is actually sawed in half and we can usually intuit the principle of how things are done, if not the specifics. When her head is sticking out of one box and "her feet" protrude from a disconnected

crate on the other side of the stage, we know those feet don't go with that head. We may not know (usually) how they made the switch and where they hid the rest of her — but we know she hasn't actually been bisected.

It just looks that way. For a few moments at least, we play along. We believe. And if we allow ourselves to believe, we can have a very good time.

It's like when four Beatles impersonators were touring in a show called *Beatlemania*. If you fought the fantasy — if you sat there going, "He doesn't sound like Paul ... he doesn't look like Ringo ..." — you wasted the admission price. In fact, it was pretty foolish of you to attend on that basis, since you knew going in, you weren't going to see The Beatles. It's just like when you go see David Copperfield, you know you're not actually going to see the law of

(Continues on Page 60)

COMIC SHOP DIRECTORY

The following is a listing of comic shops across the country, arranged by state. Be sure to mention that you saw it in CBG!

Retailers listed in bold sell Comics Buyer's Guide in their stores. For information on how you can sell Comics Buyer's Guide in your store contact your Comics Distributor or our Bulk Sales Department at 715-445-2214.

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EVENTS (From Page 37)

Nov 22 IN, Elkhart. Comiccon, Weston Plaza. Corner of Cassopolis & CR 6, SH: 10am-5pm, T: 35-8, F: \$50. for 1, \$40. ea. for 2 or more. Hall of Heroes, Allen Stewart, 22818 Elm Dr., Elkhart, IN 46516. PH: 219-293-0755.
Nov 27 IN, Highland. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Lincoln Center, 2450 Lincoln St., from I-94 S. on Indianapolis Blvd., 4th traffic light turn L., SH: 6pm-9:30pm, T: 16-6, F: \$15. for 2, A: free. Beth Gagliardi, 2450 Lincoln St., Highland, IN 46322. PH: 219-838-0114 8am-10pm.
Nov 28 IN, Hammond. Multi Hobby Collectibles Show, F.O.P. #51. 7527 Kennedy Ave., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 28, A: free. Gene Haberstick, PO Box 908, Goshen, IN 46527. PH: 219-533-1887 10am-midnight.
Nov 28-29 IN, Goshen. Multi Hobby Collectibles Show, Inn. 1375 Lincolnway (US 20), SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 30, F: \$40. A: free. Gene Haberstick, PO Box 908, Goshen, IN 46527. PH: 219-533-1887 10am-midnight.
Dec 5-6 IN, South Bend. Multi Hobby Collectibles Show, Brentwood Center, 3900 Lincolnway West, SH: Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 100. Gene F. Haberstick, PO Box 908, Goshen, IN 46527. PH: 219-533-1887.
Dec 12 IN, Highland. Comic Book & Sports Card Super Show, Lincoln Center, 2450 Lincoln St., from I-94 S. on Indianapolis Blvd., 4th traffic light turn L., SH: 9:30am-2:30pm, T: 30-6, F: \$15. for 2, A: free. Beth Gagliardi, 2450 Lincoln St., Highland, IN 46322. PH: 219-838-0114 8am-10pm.
Dec 12 IN, Michigan City. Collectibles Show, Barker Middle School Gym, 319 E. Barker Rd., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 95, F: \$30. for 1st, \$20. for 2nd, \$15. ea. add'l., A: \$2. \$1. under 5 free. Ken Zeil, PH: 219-873-2057 ext 352.
Dec 12-13 IN, Ft. Wayne. Multi Hobby Collectibles Show, Southtown Mall, 7800 S. Anthony Blvd. (US 27), SH: Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 50. Gene Haberstick, PO Box 908, Goshen, IN 46527. PH: 219-533-1887.

IOWA

Nov 27-29 IA, Oskaloosa. Comic Book, Sports Cards & Toy Show, Penn Centre Mall, Hwy. 92 W., T: 45-8, F: \$50. Stacey Craig, PH: 515-673-4087.

KENTUCKY

Dec 6 KY, Ft. Mitchell-Northern Kentucky. Comic Book, Toy & Collectible Show, Drawbridge Inn, I-75, Exit 186 (Buttermilk Pike), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 6, F: \$40. for 1, \$35. ea. for 2 or more, A: \$2. 12 & under free. Brian, PH: 513-522-1231 or Kevin, PH: 800-581-9097.

LOUISIANA

Dec 6 LA, Baton Rouge. Comic Book, Sports Card & Beanie Baby Show, Holiday Inn South, I-12 & Airline Hwy., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 49, F: \$45-\$55, A: \$1.50. C&C Promotions, 3068 Monterrey Blvd., Baton Rouge, LA 70814. PH: 504-923-2349 or 775-9846.

MARYLAND

Nov 22 MD, Pikesville. Comic Book, Toy & Non-Sports Card Show, Hilton. (Exit 20 off of 695), SH: 11am-4pm, T: 30-6, F: \$60. for 1, \$50. ea. add'l., A: \$2. Bob Cook, 504 Heath Ave., Linthicum, MD 21090. PH: 410-789-4581.
Nov 29 MD, Rockville. Comic Book & Non-Sports Card Show, Best Western.

1251 W. Montgomery Ave., SH: 10am-3pm, F: \$50. Jubilee Enterprises, 11910 Asbury Dr., Ft. Washington, MD 20744. PH: 301-292-4587 or FAX: 301-203-0159.

Dec 13 MD, Baltimore. Comic Book & Non-Sports Card Show, Days Hotel, I-83, Exit 17, Timonium, SH: 10am-3pm, F: \$50. Jubilee Enterprises, 11910 Asbury Dr., Ft. Washington, MD 20744. PH: 301-292-4587 or FAX: 301-203-0159.

MASSACHUSETTS

Nov 21 MA, Taunton. Collectibles Show IV, VFW, Ingell St. (Rt. 24 to Exit 12, Rt. 140), SH: 10am-3pm, T: 50, A: \$2. under 10 free. Bruce, PH: 508-883-6385.
Dec 6 MA, Boston. Comic Book & Toy Spectacular, Radisson Hotel. Formerly Howard Johnson, 57, 200 Stuart St., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 120-8, F: \$85, A: \$5. Primate Promos, PH: 978-388-6576.

MICHIGAN

Nov 22 MI, Livonia. X-Trava Con Comic & Toy Show, Knights of Columbus, 19801 Farmington Rd. (bet. 7 Mile & 8 Mile Rd.), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 55-8, F: \$35. in advance, \$40. day of show, A: \$2. Motor City Conventions, Michael Goldman, 19785 W. 12 Mile Rd. Ste. 231, Southfield, MI 48076. PH: 248-426-8059.

Nov 29 MI, Roseville. Comic & Toy Show, VFW, 10-1/2 & Gratiot, SH: 9am-3pm, T: 60, A: \$3. Classic Productions, PO Box 472, Fraser, MI 48026. PH: 810-775-3289, 790-6290 or 939-4205.

Dec 5 MI, Monroe. Comic Book, Sports Card & Toy Collectibles Show, Jefferson H.S. 5707 Williams Rd., SH: 10am-4pm, F: \$15, A: \$1. PH: 734-289-3531.

Dec 6 MI, Saginaw. Comic Book, Sports Card, Beanie Babies & Memorabilia Show, St. Vincent Home, 925 N. River, SH: 9:30am-5pm, T: 30-8, F: \$20, A: free. Rick Doud, PH: 517-781-0490 ext 363 or 684-2684.

Dec 6 MI, Clawson. Encore-Con Comic & Toy Show, Knights of Columbus, 870 N. Main St. (btw. 14 & 15 Mile Rd.), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 45-8, F: \$35. in advance, \$40. day of show, A: \$2. 6 & under free. Motor City Conventions, 19785 W. 12 Mile Rd. Ste. 231, Southfield, MI 48076. PH: 248-426-8059.

MINNESOTA

Dec 5-6 MN, Duluth. Comic Book, Toys & Sports Card Show #26, Entertainment Convention Ctr. 350 Harbor Dr., SH: Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 11am-4:30pm, T: 50, F: \$45. for 1, \$40. ea. for 2 or more. Kevin Bergson, PH: 701-235-2562 during reg. bus. hours.

MISSOURI

Nov 29 MO, St. Louis. Spector Comic Book Show, Kolping House, 4035 Keokuk St., SH: 11am-3:30pm, T: 70, F: \$25, A: \$1.50. Anthony Gladish, 4253 Fatima Dr. #3, St. Louis, MO 63123. PH: 314-544-2812.

NEBRASKA

Nov 27-29 NE, Bellevue. Comic Book & BB Card Show, Southroads Mall, 1001 Fort Crook Rd., SH: Fri. & Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 12noon-5pm, T: 36-8, F: \$125. for 3, A: free. Scott or Jo Helgeson, 1000 E. Salem, Indianola, IA 50125. PH: 515-961-8286.

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Nov 22 NJ, Clifton. Comic Book, Sports Card & Collectibles Show, Boys & Girls Club, 802 Clifton Ave., SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 50-8, F: \$35. for 1, \$65. for 2, A: \$1. under 7 free. Gary Sipos, 1 Garden Ct. N., Garfield, NJ 07026. PH: 973-340-2218 or 779-9332 day of show.

Nov 29 NJ, Garfield. Comic Book, Sports Card & Collectibles Show, Boys & Girls Club, 490 Midland Ave., SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 60-8, F: \$35. for 1, \$65. for 2, A: \$1. under 7 free. Gary Sipos, 1 Garden Ct. N., Garfield, NJ 07026. PH: 973-340-2218 or 779-9332 day of show.

Dec 5-6 NJ, Ocean Township. Comic Book, Sports Card, Non-Sports Card, Toy & Collectible Show, Seaview Square Mall, Rts. 35 & 66, Pky. Exit 102 S. or 100A N. to Rt. 66 E. for 2.5 mi., SH: Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 11am-5pm, T: 70-8, A: free. Collectors Showcase, Sandy Grecco, PO Box 189, Atlantic Highlands, NJ 07716. PH: 732-291-1632.

Dec 6 NJ, Garfield. Comic Book, Sports Card & Collectibles Show, Boys & Girls Club, 490 Midland Ave., SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 60-8, F: \$35. for 1, \$65. for 2, A: \$1. under 7 free. Gary Sipos, 1 Garden Ct. N., Garfield, NJ 07026. PH: 973-340-2218 or 779-9332 day of show.

Dec 6 NJ, Wayne. Comic & Collectibles Show, Co. #1 Firemens Convention Ctr. 1 Parish Dr. off 202 N. SH: 9am-3pm, T: 110-6, F: \$20, A: free. Phil DeMarlo, 137 Silbeck St., Clifton, NJ 07013. PH: 973-742-2647 or 694-9773 day of show.

Dec 6 NJ, Bordentown. Comic Book, Sports Card & Collectibles Show, Armory, Rt. 206, 5 mi. N. of Exit 7 of NJ Tpk., SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 8, F: \$45, A: \$2. EMCEE Conventions, PO Box 151, Hightstown, NJ 08520. PH: 609-448-7585.

Dec 13 NJ, Elmwood Park. Comic Book, Sports Card & Collectibles Show, American Legion Post #147, Legion Pl. (1 blk. W. of Midland Ave. off Market St.), SH: 9:30am-3:30pm, T: 50-6, F: \$30. for 1, \$55. for 2, A: \$1. under 7 free. Gary Sipos, 1 Garden Ct. N., Garfield, NJ 07026. PH: 973-340-2218 or 201-796-9717 day of show.

NEW YORK

Nov 20 NY, Brooklyn. Fri. Nite Comic Book, Sports Card, Non-Sports Card, Toys, Action Figure & Collectibles Show, St. Dominics Church, 20th Ave. & Bayridge Pky. (75 St.), SH: 6pm-10pm, T: 50-9, F: \$40. for 1, \$75. for 2, A: free. Sunrise Prods., Scotty O'Donnell, PO Box 340625 Ryder Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11234. PH: 718-251-2075 or 241-6477.

Nov 21 NY, Sayville-LI. Comic Book, Action Figures & Non-Sports Card Show, Attias Indoor Flea Market, 5750 Sunrise Hwy. & Broadway, SH: 10am-6pm, T: 35, A: free. Paul DeCarlo, PH: 516-289-7398.

Nov 22 NY, Ozone Park-Queens. Comic Book, Sports Card & Memorabilia Show, Jewish Center, 107-01 Crossbay Blvd., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 36-8, F: \$37.50 for 1, \$65. for 2, A: \$1. Joseph Caruana, 114-32 150th Ave., S. Ozone Park, NY 11420. PH: 718-845-7240 or 848-1795.

Nov 22 NY, Brooklyn. Comic Book, BB Cards, Beanie Babies, Toys & Collectibles Show, Temple Hill of Flatlands, 2164 Ralph Ave. (at Ave. L), SH: 10am-5pm, T: 50-8, F: \$40. for 1, \$75. for 2, A: free. Sunrise Prods., Scotty O'Donnell, PO Box 340625 Ryder Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11234. PH: 718-251-2075 or 241-6477.

Nov 27 NY, Brooklyn. Fri. Nite Comic Book, Sports Card, Non-Sports Card, Toys, Action Figure & Collectibles Show, St. Dominics Church, 20th Ave. & Bayridge Pky. (75 St.), SH: 11am-11pm, T: 80-9, F: \$50, A: free. Sunrise Prods., Scotty O'Donnell, PO Box 340625 Ryder Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11234. PH: 718-251-

2075 or 241-6477.

Nov 27-28 NY, Yonkers. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Mail at Cross County, 750 Central Ave., SH: 10am-6pm, T: 40-8, F: \$125, A: free. Steve Tepper, 57-65 59th St., Maspeth, NY 11378. PH: 718-894-5310 or 516-379-8300.

Nov 28 NY, New York City. Comic Book, Sports Cards & Memorabilia Show, St. Iluminators Cathedral, 221 E. 27th St., btw. 2nd & 83rd Ave., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 25-8, F: \$40, A: \$1. Edmond Elmokian, 18 Oakland Ave., W. Hempstead, NY 11552. PH: 516-564-9319.

Dec 4 NY, Brooklyn. Fri. Nite Comic Book, Sports Card, Non-Sports Card, Toys, Action Figure & Collectibles Show, St. Dominics Church, 20th Ave. & Bayridge Pky. (75 St.), SH: 6pm-10pm, T: 50-9, F: \$40. for 1, \$75. for 2, A: free. Sunrise Prods., Scotty O'Donnell, PO Box 340625 Ryder Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11234. PH: 718-251-2075 or 241-6477.

Dec 5-6 NY, Sayville-LI. Comic Book, Action Figures & Non-Sports Card Show, Attias Indoor Flea Market, 5750 Sunrise Hwy. & Broadway, SH: 10am-6pm, T: 35, A: free. Paul DeCarlo, PH: 516-289-7398.

Dec 5-6 NY, Staten Island. 1st Annual Christmas Beanie Babies, Cards, Comic Books & Toy Holiday Show, Model's Sports Fest, 55 Mill Rd., SH: Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 10am-7pm, T: 100-8, F: \$100, A: \$4. Bobby, PH: 718-728-0508.

Dec 6 NY, Brooklyn. Comic Book, BB Cards, Beanie Babies, Toys & Collectibles Show, Temple Hill of Flatlands, 2164 Ralph Ave. (at Ave. L), SH: 10am-5pm, T: 50-8, F: \$40. for 1, \$75. for 2, A: free. Sunrise Prods., Scotty O'Donnell, PO Box 340625 Ryder Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11234. PH: 718-251-2075 or 241-6477.

Dec 10 NY, Deer Park. Comic Books, Action Figures & Non-Sports Card Show, Sons of Italy Lodge, 2075 Deer Park Ave., SH: 5:30pm-10pm, T: 40, Paul DeCarlo, PH: 516-289-7398.

Dec 12 NY, Staten Island. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, St. Sylvester's School, 884 Targee St., Clove-Richmond Rd., Exit 278, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 40-9, F: \$50, A: free. Joe Dezio, 884 Targee St., Staten Island, NY 10804. PH: 718-351-8056.

Dec 12-13 NY, Sayville-LI. Comic Book, Action Figures & Non-Sports Card Show, Attias Indoor Flea Market, 5750 Sunrise Hwy. & Broadway, SH: 10am-6pm, T: 35, A: free. Paul DeCarlo, PH: 516-289-7398.

Dec 13 NY, Rockville Centre. LI Comic Book & Collectors Market Convention, Holiday Inn, 173 Sunrise Hwy., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 40, F: \$60, A: free. Cosmic Comics, 246 Merrick Rd., Oceanside, NY 11752. PH: 516-763-1133.

Dec 13 NY, Brooklyn-NYC. Toymania-Comic Books, Sports Card & Toys Show, Marriott, 333 Adams St., A: \$6. PH: 718-805-3789 or 212-888-2487 dealer info.

Dec 18 NY, Brooklyn. Fri. Nite Comic Book, Sports Card, Non-Sports Card, Toys, Action Figure & Collectibles Show, St. Dominics Church, 20th Ave. & Bayridge Pky. (75 St.), SH: 6pm-10pm, T: 50-9, F: \$40. for 1, \$75. for 2, A: free. Sunrise Prods., Scotty O'Donnell, PO Box 340625 Ryder Stn., Brooklyn, NY 11234. PH: 718-251-2075 or 241-6477.

Dec 18-20 NY, Sayville-LI. Comic Book, Action Figures & Non-Sports Card Show, Attias Indoor Flea Market, 5750 Sunrise Hwy. & Broadway, SH: 10am-6pm, T: 35, A: free. Paul DeCarlo, PH: 516-289-7398.

NORTH CAROLINA

Nov 21-22 NC, Greensboro. 11th Annual Antique & Collectible Toy & Doll Show, (Continues on Page 52)

Mickey Mouse			House With A Secret		Movie Montage (lat)		Movie Comics contd	
9 VG-F	20.00	40 VG	3.30	1 VF	18.50	Sword & Stone		
Men in Action(AJAX)		41.50 VG	1.65	Moby Duck		N Animal Antics		
3 VG	7.50	51.53 VG-F	4.2	2 VF	9.45	30.49 VG-F 22.00		
3 VG-F	9.25	51.53 VG-F	3.00	Modeling w/Millie		32.62 Poor 19.00		
Metal Men		5.5 P-FV	5.75	32 VG	5.00	Mr.Magoo		
3 VG ex CCNS		56 F	3.60	35,44,49,53,		PC561 VG 22.00		
1 PHM	4.50	57 VG+	2.75	VG-F	6.25	561 VG-F 27.50		
14 VG	10.00	Midnight Explorer		40 P-FV	12.00	562 Poor 5.50		
14 G	5.00	NM	1.00	VG-F	16.25	Moonies (TV)		
21.22 VG-F	8.75	Midnight:		Monte Hale		15 F 16.50		
4.5 VG	18.00	30	19.00	29 (lat) Fair	28.75	Mutt & Jeff		
3 POOR	3.00	5 VG	14.00	19 Fair	23.25	6 VF-NM 156.00		
24 VG-FenixisAd	Midnight Mystery			34 VG	31.00	19 VG 10.25		
8-10 VG	12.00	1 Poor	3.75	44 G-VG	17.00	33 VG 17.00		
30 F+	16.75	Mighty Comics		73-76 G	7.85	50 Fair-G 7.25		
Metamorpho (lat)		48 F-V	6.65	73-76 VG-F	57.00	50 Fair-G 12.75		
1 F	28.50	Mighty Crusaders		74-75 F	23.50	74 VG-P 16.25		
2 F+	18.00	Whty House	12.00	76 Poor-fair	4.70	81.86 VG-F 13.40		
NonHouses Munkies	10.50	3 D (lat)F	75.00	76 Fair	8.50	Other N & J Avail.		
FC670 G+	3.00	55 V-F	14.25	74 VG	11.75	My Favorite Marla		
711,728 VF	13.00	Mighty M FunClub		Notion Picture Cont		2 F 18.00		
764 F-F	9.25	Whty B	39.00	112 G-VG	21.05	3 F 15.00		
8 F	5.25	Nike Barnett		112 G-VG	28.00	My greatest		
9 G	1.65	Millie the Model	27.00	112 Fair	10.25	19 VG 64.00		
Mickey Finn		112 VG	14.50	112 G	14.50	18 VG 46.00		
8 VG	11.40	112 VG		Movie Classics		22 VG-F 45.00		
Mickey House		137,143,148 F	6.00	Dia Monstro die		25 VG 5.00		
FC231 VG-	23.50	142,146,147	1.40	F	10.50	30 VG-F 32.50		
304 VG-F	17.50	142,146,147		Hallelujah Trail		31 G-VG 15.75		
304 VG	14.00	155 VF	11.00	112 VG	8.00	43 VG ex cd 12.00		
143 FC	14.00	154 VF		Movie Comics		51 ex		
348 VG	32.50	164 2 pg MNS	1.00	Ramb'l I	2.35	SA D 24.00		
243 G	5.50	175 F-F	5.00	Cop. SinbadPart3	15.15	NM 80.00		
362 VG-F	13.75	Annual 4 P-FV	21.50	Less of Lobo		50,S3,57		
401 Fair		Miss America		9.00		50,S3,57		
371 VG+		7 May 52 NGV52		Miracle of W.		52,55,59 F 38.00		
401 VG-F	9.00	\$2.55 VG-F	4.00	Stalton G VG	3.60	54,60,61 VF 26.00		
427 VG	7.20	Mission impossible		Peter Pan I VG	5.20	56 F 52.50		
419 VG	3.50	3 VF	38.25	2.25		57 VG 20.00		
\$29 VG-F	3.50	Minter ed		Swiss Family		62,72 F 15.50		
29 VG+				Robinson-VG	5.00	68 VG 9.00		

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DAREDEVIL(1941)	31	FN	\$195	PLASTIC MAN	16	VG+FN	\$125
DAREDEVIL(1941)	32	VF	\$125	PLASTIC MAN	25	VF+FN	\$275
DEAD END CRIME	1	VG	\$95	POGO	14	VF+FN	\$180
DOLLMAN	12	VF+FN	\$275	POLICE	66	VF+FN	\$175
DYNAMIC	2	VG(R)	\$125	STAR SPANGLED	86	G+VG+	\$95
FLASH	88	VG(F)	\$275	SUPERBOY	17	FN+VF(SR)	\$160
FUNNY PAGES	3(4)	FN	\$295	THRILLING COMICS	18	VG+FN	\$140
HEADLINE	28	VF+FN	\$165	THRILLING COMICS	60	VG+	\$85
LEAVE IT! BEAVER	FC(1198)	VF+FN	\$175	THRILLING COMICS	62	FN	\$100
LEAVE IT! BEAVER	FC(999)	VF+FN	\$175	THRILLING COMICS	63	VG+(W/C)	\$68
LEAVE IT! BEAVER	1428207	VF+FN	\$175	THRILLING COMICS	65	FN	\$190
MASTER COMICS	28	VG(SR)	\$250	THRILLING COMICS	70	VF(SR)	\$175
MILITARY	24	VF	\$295	WORLD'S FINEST	12	G+VG	\$210
NATIONAL	9	G+VG	\$215	WORLD'S FINEST	26	FN+FN	\$250
PLANET	38	VG+	\$180	WORLD'S FINEST	51	VG(R)	\$95
PLANET	49	FN+VF	\$325	WORLD'S FINEST	53	VG+FN	\$135
PLANET	50	VF	\$350	2P COMICS	20	VG+FN	\$350

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GOLDEN MEMORIES #106/ ANIMALS WITH ATTITUDES

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DONALD DUCK FC 339 G \$10, 282 \$20, /26 G+ \$30, 39 VG \$6, 42 FN \$9, 45 G 40, 47,55 VG \$6, 52 VG \$8 53 FN \$65,57,58 6FN+ \$30, 60,62 FN+ \$7, 63,69,70 VG+ \$6, 67,69,71 FN+ \$30, 68 VG+ \$8, 72,74 FN \$6, 73,76 VF \$11/77,79,80,82,89 VG+ \$6, 78,81,82,90 FN+ \$12, 100,102,103,105,117,124,125,128,130,139 FN+ \$7 /FRISKY FABLES V2.6 (COLE) VG \$25/FUNNY ANIMALS 16 VG- \$16/

FUNNY COMIC TUNES 23 VG-\$20

HAPPY 21 VG FRAZETTA \$15/KRAZY KROW 2 VG\$20

HECKLE & JECKLE 4 G \$10, 7,8,11 VG \$13 EA, 21 FN \$13, 31 VF \$20, 34 VG- \$12, GOLD KEY 2 NM \$15

MIGHTY MOUSE 2 VG+ \$45, 5 VG \$22, 11,16 VG+ \$19, 13 G \$8, / 47,51,53 VG- \$17, 72,73 FN \$20, 70 G \$6 142 VG \$6, 140 VF \$10

ALBUM (100 PAGES) \$50, FUN CLUB 1 (100 PAGES) T.V. CARTOON ALBUM VG+ \$40 MONKEYSHINES 7 VG+ \$10/ MUGGYS MOUSE 3(A1-39)VG-\$12/New Funnies 68 VG\$50

OUR GANG 10 VG \$70/ 23 VG \$25/ SUPER CIRCUS 5 VG+ \$15

SUPER DUCK 45,46,48,53,60,71 VG+ \$15/SUPER RABBIT 5,7, VG+ \$25/ 9 G \$6/TERRYTOONS 35 VG+ \$24, 2 VG+ \$18, 55 VG- \$22, 85 VG \$17/PAUL TERRY'S COMICS 85,88,98,99,103,104, VG \$2

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4 F+	340	59 NM-	60	1 NM-	45	undertaken, unless		
6 G+	90	61 NM-	45	5 VF+	45	otherwise noted		
9 VG	120	62 NM	50					
10 F+	250	62 VF+	40					
13 G	50	65 VF-	30					
14 VG	100	66 VF-	30					
16 VG	80	67 VF-	30					
19 VF+	250	72 VF-	25					
20 VG	100	74 VF	30					
21 VF-	200	76 VF	30					
22 VG	100	79 VF-	25					
23 F	120	80 VF+	32					
		86 NM-	30					
Subtotal comics	3,050	98 VF-	18					
		99 NM	30					
27 F+	145	102 VF-	15					
30 VF-	230	112 NM-	20					
32 VF	120	117 NM-	20					
35 NM-	120	120 VF	17					
36 VF-	50	124 NM	16					
37 NM-	80	126 VF	11					
38 NM-	80	133 NM-	15					
39 VF+	75	145 VF-	9					
40 VF	60	147 NM	13					
41 NM	75	158 VF	10					
42 NM	75	158 F	5					
43 NM	75	162 F	5					
44 NM	75	164 VF	10					
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EVENTS

(From Page 49)

Coliseum Complex. SH: Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 10am-4pm, T: 700, A: \$5., \$1.
ages 6-12. Southeastern Collectible Expo, 1819 Peeler Rd., Vale, NC 28168.
PH: 704-276-1670.

Dec 5-6 NC, Lenoir Valley Con #1 Comic Books, Records, Toys & Cards Show,
Lenoir Mall. SH: Sat. 10am-9pm, Sun. 1pm-6pm, T: 25-35 6' & 8', F: \$50-
\$60, A: free. Mike Dentino, 820 15th Ave. Circle SE, Hickory, NC 28602. PH:
828-328-1029.

Dec 6 NC, Raleigh. Comic Con, Club Hotel by Doubletree, 2815 Capital Blvd., US
1 & 401N, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 30, F: \$70, A: free. Lyn Anderson, PO Box
99201, Raleigh, NC 27624. PH: 919-844-1758.

Dec 12 NC, Fayetteville. 26th Sandhills Toy & Hobby Show, Charlie Rose Expo
Ctr. Just off Hwy. 301 S., SH: 9am-4pm, F: \$25., A: \$4. Carolina Hobby Expo,
PH: 704-786-8373 after 4pm.

NORTH DAKOTA

Dec 12-13 ND, Bismarck. Comic Book & Sports Card Show #27, Civic Ctr. 601
Sweet St., SH: Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 11am-4:30pm, T: 20, F: \$35, for 1, \$30.
ea. for 2 or more. Lantern News, Kevin Bergson, 520 Broadway, Fargo, ND
58102. PH: 701-235-2562.

OHIO

Nov 22 OH, Cleveland-Richfield. Saturday's Child Comic Book Show & Nostal-
giastef, Holiday Inn. On OH Rt. 21 (4742 Brecksville Rd.), just S. of OH Tpke.
Exit 11, SH: 11am-4pm, T: 60-6', F: \$50, A: \$2. Joe Tricarichi, 2520 Ashurst
Rd., Cleveland, OH 44118. PH: 216-932-8596.

Nov 28-29 OH, Columbus. Mid Ohio Con, Adams Mark Hotel. 50 N. 3rd St., SH:
Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 10am-5pm, T: 150-6', F: \$12, for 1 day, \$20, for both
days. R.A.P. Prods., Roger Price, PO Box 3831, Mansfield, OH 44907. PH:
419-526-1427 weekdays 9am-5pm.

Dec 5-6 OH, Columbus. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Veterans Memorial.

300 W. Broad St., T: 150, F: \$85, A: free. Roger Edwards, 873 W. Main St.,
Westerville, OH 43081. PH: 614-523-2179.

Dec 6 OH, Cincinnati-Northern Kentucky. Comic Book, Toy & Collectibles Show,
Drawbridge Inn. I-75, Exit 186 (Buttermilk Pike), SH: 10am-4pm, T: 6', F: \$40.
for 1, \$35. ea. for 2 or more. A: \$2, 12 & under free. Brian, PH: 513-522-
1231 or Kevin, PH: 800-581-9097.

Dec 12-13 OH, Middleburg Hts. Comic Book & Sports Card Show, Tri-City Senior
Ctr. 16699 E. Bagley Rd., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 55-6', F: \$55, for 1, \$45. ea.
add'l., A: \$150, 10 & under free. L&K Promotions, Kris Herman, PH: 330-
677-9675.

Dec 13 OH, Dayton. Comic Book, Toy & Collectibles Show, Holiday Inn (Dayton
Mall), I-75, Exit 44, Miamisburg, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 6', F: \$40, for 1, \$35. ea.
for 2 or more. A: \$2, 12 & under free. Brian, PH: 513-522-1231 or Kevin, PH:
800-581-9097.

OKLAHOMA

Dec 5 OK, Tulsa. Collectibles Extravaganza Featuring: Barbies, Comic Books,
Beanie Babies & More Show, Fairgrounds, Exchange Bldg. E 21st & S. Yale,
SH: 9am-4pm, T: 200, A: \$2. Ron Flickinger, 17248 S. 92nd E. Ave., Bixby, OK
74008. PH: 918-366-7431.

Dec 5 OK, Muskogee. Comic Book, Sports Card, Non-Sports & Beanie Babies
Show, Civic Ctr. 425 Boston St., SH: 9am-5pm, T: 40-8', F: \$35, for 1, \$60, for
2, A: \$1. Dee Neuzil, 804 Callahan, Muskogee, OK 74403. PH: 918-687-7135
or Jason Cook, PH: 918-687-0660.

PENNSYLVANIA

Nov 22 PA, Philadelphia. Comic-Con, Stadium Holiday Inn. 10th St. & Packer
Ave., SH: 10am-4pm, T: 45, F: \$60, A: \$3. Derek Woywood, 10 Chelsea Cir.,
Clementon, NJ 08021. PH: 609-782-0817.

Dec 12-13 PA, Philadelphia. Annual Christmas Comic Book & Sports Card Super
Show, Roosevelt Blvd. (US Rt. 1) & Southampton Rd., 5 mi. S. of PA Tpke.
Exit 28, SH: Sat. 10am-5pm, Sun. 9:30am-4pm, T: 28, F: \$135, for 1, \$250.
for 2, A: free. Eric or Neil Poppel, PH: 215-579-0731.

SOUTH CAROLINA

Nov 28 SC, Greenville. 4th Annual Thanksgiving Comic Book & Sports Card
Show, Howard Johnsons. I-85 & Laurens Rd., SH: 10am-5pm, T: 25, F: \$38.
for 1, \$75, for 2, \$108, for 3, A: \$1. Tom or Bob Waldrop, PH: 864-244-7424
or 963-9185.

TENNESSEE

Dec 12 TN, Murfreesboro. Comic Book, Sports Card & Toy Show, Ramada Lim-
ited. I-24, Exit 81-B, SH: 8am-4:30pm, T: 45-6', F: \$25, A: free. John McGill,
1315 W. Northfield, Murfreesboro, TN 37129. PH: 615-893-1140.

TEXAS

Nov 22 TX, Houston. Sci-Fi Expo & Toy Show, Holiday Inn Select. 2712 South-
west Freeway at Kirby, SH: 10am-4pm, T: 65, F: \$35, A: \$5. Ben Stevens, PO
Box 941111, Plano, TX 75094. PH: 972-578-0213.

Nov 29 TX, El Paso. Comic Book & Toy Show, Quality Inn. I-10 at Geronimo, SH:
9am-5pm, T: 34-8', Art Wagner, 3814 Mobile Ave., El Paso, TX 79930. PH:
915-564-4757 or 532-2040.

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4131 DC, Wanted
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4005

PERSONALS

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4011

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4101

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4123

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\$350,000 SEARCH for quality comic book collections!! Buying most everything from: 1933-1972. Serious buyer. Rick Semowich, 56 John Smith Road, Binghamton, NY 13901. 607-648-4025.

COLLECTOR PURCHASING Covers and Splashes from 1935-1980. Stephen Fishler, 873 Broadway Suite 201, NY, NY 10003, 800-229-6387.

WORLDS FAIR 1939. Need copy with missing inside pages! Michael Dice, 309 S. Washington St., Cortez, CO 81321. 970-564-9018, evenings.

WANTED: COMIC collections made before 1958. None are to small or large! Michael Dice (cbg) 309 South Washington, Cortez, CO. 81321. Phone evenings: 970 564-9018. E-mail: oldcomic@fone.net.

PHILA AREA dealer looking to buy collections of intage comics books or baseball cards. Ryan 215-947-3498.

BUYING STORE Overstock warehouse bulk Silver and Golden Age comics, we come to you nationwide, any size collection large or samll. Tapes and Toys too. 937-836-6639.

4125

COMIC SHOWS/EVENTS

COMICFEEK 98, Comic Book Convention, Toronto, Canada. November 21-22, 1998. Toronto International Centre. Special guests: Randy Queen, Murphy Anderson, David Finch, Joe Jusko and Drew Hayes. Admission \$8/1 day, \$12/2 days. Please check out <http://www.comicfreak.com> for more info or call 905-761-2185.

4128

DARK HORSE FOR SALE/ WANTED

ALIEN SETS for sale. Also Martha Washington and Next Men. Larry 414-652-2160.

4130

DC, FOR SALE

SHADOW 1 VF/NM \$15, 2 VF/NM \$9, Crisis 1, 3, 8, 12 NM \$2.70 ea. Add \$3.50. Barry Eller, 309 South Rowan, Spencer, NC 28159.

LOW GRADE Silver. Action 252, 285; Brave & Bold 28, missing ad page; Superman Annual #1, guide price \$173. Take all, \$125. Dan 203-938-1161.

BATMAN #46 G- \$76, Ad. Comics 260 G \$70, Doom Patrol #91 VG-FN \$18, JLA #6 G \$26, JLA #30 G \$10, Strange Adv. #117 VG+ \$90, Swamp Thing #2 NM \$35. P&H \$5. Larry 215-677-0268.

SANDMAN #1-75, #2-75 NM, #1 good, both Deaths #1-3, NM. Death & Sandman galleries NM. Bill Rourke, PO Box 128, Northford, CT 06472.

ALL NM Legion of Super Heroes (3rd series) #22-36 \$1.75 ea., #39 \$1.50, #40-44 \$1.75 ea., #45 \$3, #46-48 \$1.75 ea., #49 \$2, #50 \$2.50. Mark 715-824-3359.

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DETECTIVE COMICS (Batman) lot of 40 books. Sale or trade. Len Knappenberger, 1148 Dennis Drive, South Bend, IN 46614. E-Mail at: knappelli@aol.com

INTERNATIONAL SALES! Big DC war comic list. Golden Age to present. Free. Back Issue Comix 517-754-2430, 844 Tittabawassee, Saginaw, MI 48604. Illustrated web site too! <http://www.users.enc-1.com/backissu/index.htm>

SUPERMAN 1940-72 cards 1984 reprint set \$50. Batman 1966 cards, boxed Topps 1989 reprint set \$35. Mint. John Fawcett, Box 1156, Waldboro, ME 04572.

GRAPPHITI BATMAN statue #5012/5555. This statue is \$1,200 in Whites Guide, no box, will sacrifice for \$850. Statue is in mint condition. Call Bill 606-269-6633.

SETS OF DC's, Marvel's, Independents, from '80s, '90s. List via SASE: PO Box 142, Quincy, MA 02171-0003 or E-mail: gquay@gis.net. Thanx.

MYSTERY In Space 10 VG \$90, 15 VG \$65, All Star Western 9 NM- \$12, House of Secrets 91 NM- \$18. Fred 201-864-2252.

DC COMICS for sale. Most \$1 each. Batman, Superman, Vertigo and others. Write for list. 707 Walther Ave., Baltimore, MD 21206.

STARMAN #0, Spectre #2, \$8 ea., Starman #1 (VF/NM), #2, Flash #1, Spectre #1, \$5 each. Crisis #1 (signed Perez), #8. Charles Reagle 941-966-6816. buymystuff@juno.com

DC LIMITED Collectors Edition (1973), C-22 Tarzan VF \$2.50. Marvel Movie Premiers #1 (VF) \$1. \$3 P&H. SASE. Allen Schuler, 7506 Appletree Way, Louisville, KY 40228.

SANDMAN KINGLY ones in mint condition, hardback only \$20. 1st class postage/ insurance paid. Eric Troxell, Box 108, Ashville, PA 16613.

KAMANDI #1 VF+ \$20 (Kirby), House of Mystery #153 VG+ 15, Batman #400 NM \$10. Cyclone Comics, P.O. Box 5641, Petaluma, CA 94955.

FLASH #146 (VG+), Green Lantern #85 (Fn-), Hawkman #23 (Fn+), JLA #28 (VG+), 30 (VG), #38 (VG+), #94 (Fn), #96 (VF-), \$20 each. Mark 210-564-0034.

GREEN LANTERN (1st Series) #16 (Fn-, mark on back cover) 1st Star Sapphire, #26 (Fn) \$40 each, #79 (VG) \$9, and many more DC's. 210-564-0034.

ACTION #1, C-26; Detective #27, C-28. Other large size DC's. NM prices negotiable. Inquire 716-882-2875. Donald Whyte, 46 Greenwood Place, Buffalo, NY 14213.

DC WHO'S Who #1-26 1985-87 \$7, Update 1987 #1-5 \$3. B.A. McKichan, 3115 S. 18th St., Sheboygan, WI 53081. Include \$2 shipping.

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25 ASSORTED Flash \$12, 25 assorted Green Lantern \$12. 25 assorted Green Arrow \$12. 25 Batman \$12. Todd Franks, 5284 State Road 50, Webster, FL 33597.

SWAMP THING 1972 1-24NM \$175, Annuals 1-5NM \$15, wanted dangerous Villains 1-9 NM \$80, Kotter 1-10NM \$75, DC Special Series 2-14-17 20 NM \$25. Ernie 603-447-5701.

FAMOUS 1ST Editions, Limited Collector's Editions, all- new Collector's Editions. Set of 30, conditions vary. \$295. V. Toth, RR 1 Box 5975, Smithfield, ME 04978. 207-362-6449.

4130

DC, FOR SALE

FLASH COLLECTION! #239, 240, 243, 246, 248, 250, 254, 259, 271, 278, 279, 284, 286, 287 and 302; Average Fine+. All for \$30. Reserve: stjffpb@juno.com or Jeff, 744 Bergrber St., Emmaus, PA 18049.

PLATINUMS ARE Back! Superman #75, Jonah Hex, Books of Magic, Static, Harware, other Superman Platinums as well as other gold and platinum editions. Call 732-360-0169.

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4131

DC, WANTED

DC SILVER age collections wanted, other publishers as well. All grades. Call Jerry 212-302-8192. Fax 212-302-4775.

BUYING GREEN LANTERN Power Ring, Legion Super Heroes Flight Ring, DC 1997/98 \$45 each. Atlas, POB 25095, Overland Park, KS 66225. 913-345-1069. chris@atlascomics.com

RETRO VISION: Men of Steel #1, Magazines concerning DC's Superman. My check was cashed. Where/ Where? Howard Michales Jr., 706 North Cottage, Mercer, PA 16137-9319.

DC'S WANTED in G-VG condition only: GI Combat 87, 88, Our Fighting Forces 49, Tomahawk 67. Steve Kane, Box 86, New Braintree, MA 01531.

DC COMICS Superhero activity books from Tempo, 1978 wanted. Please write: Richard Yanchus, 235 St. Clair St., Wilkes Barre, PA 18705.

GREEN ARROW Wanted #96, 100 (regular), 101. Also Stardust #1. Craig Powell, 3579 San Carlos Drive, Salt Lake City, UT 84119.

BATMAN #101-145 VG or better. Send me your lists or E-mail me. John Hollop, 137 Lancaster, Albany, NY 12210. E-mail: hondo@capital.net

LOOKING For Sugar & Spike #78 through #85 in strict NM condition. Willie Costello, 176 Park Lane, Trumbull, CT 06611. E-mail: wjccpamst@aol.com or fax 203-268-1047.

4140

DELL/GOLD KEY/WHITMAN

FOR SALE

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DELL 25c Giants, TV Series Comics, Turoks, Lone Rangers, Korak, 10% to 50% off OPG, cash or trade for large features (GA) I need. 319-377-3524.

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GREEN HORNET 1G \$20, Jungle Tales Tarzan 1NM \$15, Rango 1NM \$18, Neutro 1NM \$25, Jeannie 1VG \$10, Mod Squad 1NM \$45. Ernie 603-447-5701.

4141

DELL/GOLD KEY/WHITMAN

WANTED

TWILIGHT ZONE #1, 3, 15-92; Outer Limits 2, 10-18; Magnus Robot Fighter #30, 37, 42-46. VF or better. David Rauchwarer, 266 Juniper Ave., Red Wing, MN 55066. E-mail: drauchw@presenter.com

TOM CORBETT, Space Cadet, 46378, #4-#7 in VF, Dell Giant #26, 23, 31, 32, 44, 45, 50. Dave Brauhn, 416 Waterbury Lane, Cedar Rapids, IA 52402.

GOLD KEY Raggedy Ann and Andy wanted. Send list to Michael Kossen, 66 W. Springer Dr., #308, Highlands Ranch, CO 80126. 303-791-6500.

ANNIE OAKLEY, Bat Masterson, Buffalo Bill Jr., Colt 45, Davy Crockett, Fury, Have Gun Will Travel, Lone Ranger, Maverick, Zorro! Clifford, Box 113, Jonesboro, IL 62952.

4141 DELL/GOLD KEY/WHITMAN WANTED

WANTED IN VF+ condition, Dell Four Color #1006, pay \$30. #1121 pay \$30. #1227 pay \$25. Write: Anthony Buckley, PO Box 2733, Quincy, MA 02269.

4150 DISNEY, FOR SALE

DONALD DUCK four color #9, condition- fine + +, asking price \$1,900 OBO. Call anytime 207-778-4230.

NM DISNEYS, \$2, DD 261 to 307, DDA #1 to 33, WDGS 532 to 599. Free shipping. Dan Lewonczyk, 29 Markwood, Manchester, CT 06040. 860-643-0453.

FIRST GLADSTONES! Donald Duck 246 \$12, Mickey Mouse 219 \$12, Uncle Scrooge 210 \$12, 219 \$15, Disneyland Birthday Party 1 \$12. All NM/M. Superdreams 408-866-7546.

CHEERIOS PREMIUM Y-1: Donald Duck's Atom Bomb by Barks, VF. \$234. Tony Urso, PO Box 142, Chrisman, IL 61924. 217-269-3208 after 8 p.m. CST. Offers?

OLD DISNEY Bonanza! WDC&S #308, 339, 341, 343, 358, 359, all VG+ to Fine; Uncle Scrooge 98 VG, plus 2 more, all for \$30. Reserve: 610-967-2433.

WALT DISNEY'S How To Draw and Color Book, Whitman, 1960. Several pages colored. \$25 postpaid. John Atwater, 7213 Parkside Place, Rancho Cucamonga, CA 91701.

4151 DISNEY, WANTED

WALT DISNEY'S comics and stories wanted, VG or better: 4, 9, 11, 14, 15, 19, 21, 24, 25, 39, 44, 55, 71. Cash/trade. Dave 619-465-3090.

4160 EC, FOR SALE

MAD! MAD Follies #7 (with cards), Fine+, Mad Special #1 (1970), with Voodoo doll, Fine, Mad #130, VG-. All for \$35 (cheap!). Reserve: stjefpb@juno.com or Jeff, 744 Berger St., Emmaus, PA 18049.

MAD #1-290, 200 issues, many NM, including annuals w/ bonuses (Worst, Trash, Follies, Special), other Mad Collectibles. Bennet Barsk, 13-A Sunset Drive, Alexandria, VA 22301. 703-299-8749.

4170 FAWCETT, FOR SALE

THREE FAMOUS Flying Marvels, Fawcett 1945. Beautiful large size paper flying toys unused, very fine condition, \$19.50 postpaid. OTB Distributors, PO Box 195, Cheektowaga, NY 14225.

4204 IMAGE FOR SALE/ WANTED

SPAWN! ISSUES 1-17, Fan Edition #2, Comic From Action Figure \$125 for all ppd. Angela Action figure \$15 ppd. Call James 609-386-3964. jminieri@m-s-g.com

KISS PSYCHO Circus #5-13, Curse of Spawn #5-13, #16-24. \$2 each. \$3 shipping. Tom Kelly, PO Box 97, Eastanollee, GA 30538.

WITCHBLADE 15-26, Darkness 10-17, Regular Covers. \$2.50 each, \$3 shipping. Tom Kelly, PO Box 97, Eastanollee, GA 30538.

GLORY (IMAGE) #16 Oct. 1996. Call 281-424-1082 or write: John Mason, 200 Timber Ln., Baytown, TX 77520.

WITCHBLADE 3 \$12, Ascension O \$2, Wildstar 1-4 \$5, Hazard 1-7 \$7, Creech 1-3 \$5. \$2 S&H. Rob Abrams, 281 Fox Hill, Buffalo Grove, IL 60089.

BUFFY #1 \$5, Photo Variant #7, DHP Annual 98 \$10.50, Angela set: 1-3, rare Pirate Spawn cover, Spawn #9, all just \$42.50 plus shipping. 626-303-6564.

STONE! #1 regular \$3, Silvestri Variant #1 \$5, #2 set \$6! Death set: HCL 1-3 plus Sandman #8 NM/M. \$37.50 plus shipping. Call 626-303-6564.

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PUNISHER ORIGIN in Marvel Preview #2 NM \$60. Jusko Punisher cover Marvel Super Action #1 NM \$35. Chaykins Dominic Fortune in both. Multiple copies. Gabe 760-325-5977.

THOR #1 Dealers special 10 copies \$13 postpaid. 5 copies \$10 postpaid. Sandra De Fazio, 70 Cody Place, Staten Island, NY 10312.

4210 MARVEL/TIMELY, FOR SALE

MARVEL BRONZE mint cards w/case, Amazing Fantasy 15 card #1024 X-Men #1 card # 988, both for \$90, \$50 each. Horace's Heroes. 603-564-9718 message.

CONAN THE Barbarian #14 thru #22 (minus #20) average grade Fine, all 8 comics for \$25 plus \$3 postage. Pete 616-676-0146.

UNCANNY X-MEN over 80% off! Assorted issues between #143-300 and Annual 7-17, NM/M, only \$56.95 and \$5 shipping. VISA/MC. Comic Zone, 37313 Maple, Fremont, CA 94536. 510-791-7406.

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MYSTIC 27 GVG \$35, 25 (C) \$7, 38 VG \$30, 45 VGF \$40, 46 F \$45, 46 NM \$100, 50 FN \$40, 50 VFNM \$100, VG \$30. Ray Storch 510-658-3403, CA daytime weekdays.

JOURNEY INTO Mystery 34 VG \$50, 36 VG \$50, 42 G \$18, 46 VGF \$40, 74 G \$20. strange Stories Suspense 9 GVG \$20. Ray Storch 510-658-3403 CA daytime weekdays.

JOURNEY INTO Unknown Worlds 4 (C), 10 (C), 31 G+, 46 F, 49 FG, 49 VG+, 50 VF. Ray Storch 510-658-3403, Oakland, CA daytime weekdays.

COLLECTOR'S CHOICE! Amazing Spiderman 42-100, Defenders 1-60, Jim 101-125, TOS 57-99, TTA 52-101, Thor 126-400, House Secrets 92. Ambrose, 2208 Saratoga, Austin, TX 78733-1233.

STAR WARS #1 Marvel, 1977, NM-M. 10 copies for \$250. Postage/insurance paid. Limited offer. Ed Kalb 602-981-8957.

ALL SOLID Mint Battle Star Galactica 1 to 23, \$39. Dennis Menace 1 to 13 \$27. Dreadstar 1-10 \$15. \$5 postage. 606-283-2356. Jack Caçon, 9 Lakeshore Dr., Florence, KY 41042.

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AVENGERS #23, 24, 30 \$12 ea., #32, 36, 41 \$7 ea., all FN, #33 VF \$20, Peter Parker #1 \$20, #2 \$12, all MT, more: 718-457-9203.

DAREDEVIL 158 F/VF \$8, ASM Annual 14, 15 NM \$7@, Punisher (1987) 1-40, Ann. 1, 2 \$30 for all; Spider-Man 2099 1-40 \$25 for all. Richard 323-463-1948.

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BUYING MARVEL Masterworks #13, #16, #17, #18 \$50; #6, #21 \$40. Also buying all others! Atlas, POB 25095, Overland Park, KS 66225. 913-345-1069, chris@atlascomics.com

WANTED WHAT If #105, also Marvel Masterworks #13-21, 1 Lusiphur (Poison Elves) #1-17, Vampirella #113. Rick Waugh, 4001 W 242nd St., #A-4, Torrance, CA 90505. 310-373-3831.

4216 PLATINUM AGE WANTED

PLATINUM AGE comics wanted, 1897-1932. Send list. All items in large catalogue available in trade. Calvin Slobodian, 74 Waterloo, Brandon, Manitoba, Canada R7B 3W7. 204-728-4337.

4220 SCIENCE FICTION/HORROR FOR SALE

STAR TREK, Star Wars, Babylon 5 magazines, comics, cards, misc. E-mail: novap104@aol.com

PLANET, NIGHTMARE, Fantastic, Terrifying Tales, more. \$3 for 50 page nicely illustrated catalog and fanzine. Also art. Biff Smith, 1344 West Flower, Phoenix, AZ 85013.

HAUNT OF Fear: Fine #5 \$92, #6 \$67, #6 \$67, #12 \$53. Others. Money order. Information, write (no calls). R. Bowden, 1907 Texas, Rantoul, KS 66079-9037.

WEIRD SCIENCE 15(#4) GD/VG \$80, #9 VG \$80, Web of Mystery #1 GD/VG \$60, #5 VG/FN \$48, #7 GD \$19, #27 GD/VG \$24, Unknown World #1 FN (1952) \$100. 315-676-5931.

VAULT OF Horror #14 FN/VF \$300, #18 FN \$100, #21 VG \$60, #22 VG \$60, #34 GD/VG \$20, Tomb of Terror #1 GD/VG \$45, 5 FN \$49, 11 VG/FN \$42, #13 VG/FN \$50. 315-676-5931.

4221 SCIENCE FICTION/HORROR WANTED

FORBIDDEN WORLDS 42 wanted. Does anyone have a copy available? Please let me know. Thank you. Don, 11 South Hill Dr., Essex Junction, VT 05452.

STAR WARS collectibles wanted. Finest refractors, inserts, CCG, Action figures etc. Paying cash. Contact Bill Ferrara, PO Box 6245, Gulf Breeze, FL 32561. E-mail beandad@msn.com

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ORIGINAL GARY Hallgrey color. Flying Alien's For book store sci-fi 14x11 \$175. Undergrounds S.A.S.E. for list. Nickel Library, Bijou, Skull, Fantagor, Junkawaffel etc. Longenbach 212-741-2593.

4241 UNDERGROUND, WANTED

BUYING RARE Underground with Corben, Crumb Bode. E-mail: aschei96@pipeline.com. Arnold Scheiman, 30 East 9th St., New York, NY 10003.

OZ MAGAZINE with underground comix reprints wanted. Top \$\$\$ for top quality runs. Eric Sack, 201 Old York Rd., Jenkintown, PA 19046. E-mail: efsack@aol.com

4250 INDEPENDENTS, FOR SALE

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MATT'S PICKS, Corners: Age O'Bronze, Colonia, Measles, All Thrill, Superman/Peace, Batman/ Hellboy, Terry N'Pirates, Wild Person, Torso, Junkyard Enforcer, Factor. 123 Elm, Hatfield, MA 01038.

BRENT ANDERSON reads "Postmodern Anxst", shouldn't you? Fun, all ages comic. Sample: \$2. Greg Bada, PO Box 610154, Redwood City, CA 94061. www.anxst.com

PEBBLES/ BAMB-BAMB 12-36, Peacemaker 3-5, Phantom 35-74, Popeye 107-138, Space War 24-34, Mage 5-13, G-NM 1/2 Guide. SASE assures reply. Wally, Box 76, Waynesburg, OH 44688.

RARE VENOM #1 'Black' \$150, Animal Mystic #1-4 \$45, Vampirella (Harris) #1-4 \$45, Vampirella (Warren) #3 F+ \$170, #113 VF \$250, shipping. 516-679-2642 eves. EST.

STRANGERS In Paradise #1, \$12 (Abstract) #2, #3, \$6. Scud #1 \$12, #2, #3 \$7. 1 Lusiphur #2, \$20, #19 \$9. Near Mint. Call Charlie 617-782-5709.

GASP #1 Mint \$6 postpaid contains Poison Elves, Stranger/Paradise, THB, etc. Great deal. Wesley Tillander, PO Box 366, Morrow, GA 30260.

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DOUBLE EDGE Demons of the Mist 1, 2, 3 for \$5.95, S&H free. Send to: Double Edge Publishing, PO Box 137, Bohemia, NY 11716.

KLUTTERED VISIONS new web site is at: http://members.tripod.com/~kvisions

ACTIVATOR In the Age of Fear. 28 page color xerox, Futurist, Sci-Fi, horror, Super Hero, Adventure Comic, \$5. Brian Swift, POB 5444, Sparks, NV 89432.

MUSICOMICS MONTHLY - an original song, an original style. Break Yr Heart, Make Y'Smile. #s 1-38 any 5/\$3. Walking Man Comics, 123 Elm Hatfield, MA 01038.

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PLAYBOYS: 9/85 Madonna, 12/92 and 3/93 Betty Page, 5/93 Susie Owens (Flaxon), 10/93 Jenny McCarthy, 1/94 40th Anniversary, Penthouse; 6/87 Samantha Fox, 1/95. P. Jones \$5-10@. Info 508-995-6968.

CASTLE FRANKENSTEIN file copies, fine or better, most available; 10 different \$95; 100-copy dealer lot \$475. Nick Certo, Box 10305, Newburgh, NY 12552, 914-566-4188.

NUDE SCI-FI Stars: Celebrity Skin #71 \$7; Femme Fatales 9/97 ("Flesh Gordon" special) \$7; Mathilda May HighSociety 12/85 \$5; Polwort, POB 5152, St. Louis, MO 63139.

WIZARD COLLECTION for sale! Fill in yours with mint copies from my collection. Most only cover price. Larry 414-652-2160 evenings.

JEDI KNIGHT... Sack VP. Swallow Your Pride. Admit you're wrong. Order Darkside's Omega issue or die stupid. \$4. Monolith Graphics, 1171 Pomona, Cleveland, OH 44121.

OVERSTREET'S FAN issues 1-24 complete set excellent shape, \$100 ppd. Steve Jacobs, 2 Buckingham Road, Natick, MA 01760.

JUDGE MAR, 1929 Full color Dr. Seuss cover. Three other Seuss drawings inside, 34 pgs. (VG) \$35 ppd. Geoffrey Mahfuz, 30 Phebe Ave., Lowell, MA 01854.

4451 MAGAZINES, WANTED

GIRLIE MAGAZINES wanted from the 1950's to 1975. Adam, Modern Man, all titles. Please send pricelist. Bill Megvery, 1733A. North Larrabee, Chicago, IL 60614. Thanks.

VAMPIRELLA SPECIAL wanted, San Julian Warren portfolio, Kaluta "Shadow" posters, ("Master of Men" etc.) Warren mags (reading copies). Brian, 238 E. 24th St. #2A, New York, NY 10010.

NATURALIST (NUDIST) material wanted. Buying non-airbrushed mags, books, etc... Send lists with issue number, year and conditions. S. Dowdy, 5120 North Spring, Roanoke, VA 24019.

MIKE SHAYNE Mystery Magazine for February 1968. Write: Bill Finocchio, 611 Kimball Ave., Fulton, NY 13069 or call me after 5 p.m. at 315-593-3454.

SMITHSONIAN MAGAZINE - August 1990. R. Dumont, 750 Whittemore Rd., Middlebury, CT 06762. 203-598-3529. rdumont792@aol.com

WANTED MARVEL Masterworks, 70s Skywald Magazines, FF 80-100, DD 30-40, Amazing Adventures 18-39. Send prices to: Kim Klein, 6027 Little Brook Court, Clifton, VA 20124.

BUYING DIGESTS. 1940's-1970's. All kinds. Science Fiction and Fantasy. Also older pulp magazine, books, original art. BLB's. James Doyiakos, 2221 W. Lawrence, Chicago, IL 60625.

WARREN VAMPIRELLA Magazines wanted in good condition. Will pay \$5 each. John Pasqua, 1848 Edgecomb, Covina, CA 91724.

4453 SCIENCE FICTION, WANTED

HARDCOVER AND soft Star Wars and Star Trek (all versions) wanted. Walter Wyzujak, 1508 Christina St., Rockford, IL 61104-4709.

4610 PORTFOLIOS/POSTERS FOR SALE

PORTFOLIOS, PRINTS. Hundreds available. Smith, Frazetta, Wrightson, Corben, Adams, Steranko, more! SASE for free list. I also buy! Wesley, P.O. Box 366, Morrow, GA 30260.

ALEX ROSS Batman print, "The Knight Takes A Squire", only 2,100 made. \$50 firm. Beautiful piece! Ask for Jim after 5 at 920-426-4781.

JEFF JONES - S&N art prints, Age Of Innocence, Undying Wizard, Dragonslayer, more. Glimmer Graphics, 340 S. Logan Ave., Trenton, NJ 08629.

MICHAEL KALUTA - S&W art prints She's Leaving Home, Freddie's Dream (Metropolis), Studio Posters. Glimmer Graphics, 340 S. Logan Ave., Trenton, NJ 08629.

ELQUEST PORTFOLIOS available. Write or call for prices. Robert Pierce, 642 S. Burnside Ave., #4, Los Angeles, CA 90036. 323-935-9351.

BARRY SMITH Prints, portfolios, Gould, Jones, Kaluta, Wrightson, Frazetta, many cool pieces. Send SASE for list of goodies! Dave Leclair, 3 Arlington, Holyoke, MA 01040.

4611 PORTFOLIOS/POSTERS WANTED

GEORGE PEREZ Avengers 30th Ann. poster at reasonable price, send price to: Efriem Merritt, 817 Ruswood Rd., Winder, GA 30680. 770-867-8258.

4630 TRADING CARDS FOR SALE

1,000 DIFFERENT magic cards for \$200 ppd. Mid-Scrye lists at \$1,000+. All cards are NM/M. 281-872-1957 or e-mail: kellyoka@flash.net

X-RATED DEMI the Demoness trading card set! 36 full color art cards, \$13.95 each. Free newsletter. Adults only! Opus Graphics, PO Box 2068, Scottsdale, AZ 85252.

X-MEN CARDS, Series 1 (Jim Lee), all 100 cards plus Wolverine, Gambit holograms, \$10 plus postage. Craig 651-698-8981.

250 ALL different non-sport promo cards \$45. Send SASE for list of promos for sale or trade. Billy Shipley, 4907 Ivanhoe, San Antonio, TX 78228. limbo@texas.net

MCGWIRE, SOCA. Griffey, Ripken, Ryan, Marino and Rice rookie cards. All in Mint condition, all priced below Beckett!! Greg 408-763-9125.

4631 TRADING CARDS WANTED

OVERPOWER CARDS wanted: Power Leech, Any Missions, Batman Holograms, Overpower Inserts. Contact: Rich, 2335 South California, Chicago, IL 60608. Phone: 773-254-6805.

SOLITAIRE/ MALIBU Ace of Spades from Solitaire #1! Does it exist? Thanks to all who responded in the past. redragon6@hotmail.com

OVERPOWER CARD wanted: Batman Stat card. Will pay double! Contact Rhyan Sollace, 6827 Indian Wells Rd., Morrisville, NC 27560, 919-469-8217.

WANTED NON-SPORT cards from 30's and 40's. Will buy or trade. Write: Charles Johnson, Gibbon, MN 55335.

SOLITAIRE ACE of Spades! Help! I need to buy one before I go nuts! Have mercy and part with one. redragon6@hotmail.com

MARVEL: THE Silver Age inserts. Especially the autographed and sketch cards. Also looking for "Silver Age Heroes" inserts. Please call Bill 618-744-1543. asgard41@aol.com

BACTRAM, MAD Political Scientist and Ewan McKay for xxxenophile. Greg Davis, 1419 North 725 West, West Bountiful, UT 84074.

H.S. 3 Part 2 #157, HS 98 Trilogy I 50, 60 HS Queen of Hearts pg 12, Pamela Lee Ederquest set. SASE. Louis Bosse, 1120 Aurora, Muskegon, MI 49442.

BABYLON 5 TNT Mall Tour postcards wanted. Buffy inserts and autographs wanted. Jeff Thompson, 11 Bennington Way, Belle Mead, NJ 08502. 609-443-2340.

WANTED: CROW collectable trading card game. Looking for complete set. Contact Mark Schryver at 212-388-7343. (Leave a message with name and phone number, I'll call.)

BAMBI SUNCOAST cel. Dr. Who Cornerstone autographs. Jusko ERB P5 promo. Speed Racer P3 promo. Wildstorm A15 autograph. Biosphere promos. Landmark Entertainment promos. 617-723-5155. martin_casas@yahoo.com

1992 FLEER FOOTBALL #86, 1997 Score Board NFL Experience #32. Frank Lloyd Jr., PO Box 270, Richwood, WV 26261-0270. Buy or trade. Thank you.

4660 MISCELLANEOUS, FOR SALE

ULTRAMAN GAIA, Uncut Japense monsters, Neverwhere, Isis, Shazam, Supermarionation, Red Dwarf. E-mail: UMANZOFFY@aol.com or 64¢ SASE, 2604 28th #5, Santa Monica, CA 90405.

SELLING SETS: The Amazing Adventures of Superman 223-363 MT \$25; Superman 142 F \$28; 189 F \$20; Shadow 1973 1-12 MT \$125; Kamandi 1-59 MT \$380 all ppd. Phil Guntner, Box 9873, Baltimore, MD 21286.

CHEECH WIZARD and Lizard puppets. One of a kind life size marionette of Cheech and hand puppet of Lizard from Bode's Cartoon Concert. Built and performed by Brian Narelle after Vaughn's death. Cheech \$500, Lizard \$100. Contact 415-389-6490 or bnarelle@earthlink.net

JANANESE LASER Discs "Gundham" Vol. 1-3 \$40 ea., "Akira" \$65, "Five Star Stories" \$80, "UFO" Vol. 1, 4 \$30 ea., "Apocalypse Now" \$20, "Terminator 2" \$20. Longenbach 741-212-2593 phone, fax.

X-MEN ALERT game. Mint condition with 18 plastic figures, \$16 postpaid. Brett 719-265-1896 M-F, 5-10 P.m. MST and weekends 719-390-1900 days.

SEVEN DIFFERENT memorabilia. Pertaining to "The Monkees", no comics. Send for list. David Kohnhorst, PO Box 103, Sunland, CA 91041.

THE MASK cold cast porcelain statue from Dark Horse. Long out of print with 24k gold clock and original box, \$155 ppd. 414-363-3761. Dan zjekt@yahoo.com

HEAVY METAL, 35 early issues from 1977-1981, four others free \$250. Comic Reader #158-191 \$125. Toth, RR 1 Box 5975, Smithfield, ME 04978. 207-362-6449.

RUSS MEYER - 3 all-new movies on name brand tapes! "Good Morning... and Goodbye", "Lorna", and "Finders Keepers, Lovers Weepers". \$15 each or \$40 for all 3! Send ck. or M.O. to: Jim Watnem, 5361 Eastway, #4, Greendale, WI 53129.

ALI FIGHTS 1967-1976. Closed Circuit boxing tickets. 5-1/2" by 3". Mint with stubs. Seven different for \$280. Maxwell, Box 367, Lampeter, PA 17537. 717-464-5572.

STATUES: SUPERMAN, Joker, Flash, Wonderwoman, Swamp Thing, Witchblade, Robin, many more. Good prices. Call Dan 770-533-9438 after 6pm EST.

4660 MISCELLANEOUS, FOR SALE

RUSS MEYER mania! "Finders Keepers, Lovers Weepers", "Lorna", and "Good Morning... and Goodbye", \$15 each or \$40 for all 3. Send check/ M.O. to: Jim Watnem, 5361 Eastway #4, Greendale, WI 53129.

VIDEO SEARCH: Sci-Fi, horror, noir, western, cartoons. I'll find/send that missing item. Include postcard. G. Cook, 4 Mowbray Lane, Cold Spring Harbor, NY 11724.

MODEL KITS check out <http://members.ebay.com/aboutme/boogie-man/>.

THE NEXT Bettie page? Could be. Five dollars for revealing photo package and you decide. Adults only. LLL, 1217 Trenton Apt. 12A, West Monroe, LA 71291.

CONAN, TARZAN, Elvis. Books, comic books, magazines. Small collection. Also, old-time radio programs in vinyl. Robert Owen, 4 Rivercove Dr., Cromwell, CT 06416. 860-635-7279.

VERTIGO TAROT card set with book \$100, Star Wars B'Omar Monk or Spirit Obi-Wan \$25, Toyfare X-Wing \$35, all postpaid. Steven 973-857-3960.

VAN HALEN 1984 tour book and photo book. Scorpions, Rush tour books. \$10 plus \$3 postage. Brett 719-265-1896, 5-10 p.m. MST or M-F 719-390-1900 days.

HULK HORIZON model, vinyl, semi-built. No paint, comes with box, \$15 postpaid. Brett 719-265-1896 M-F 5-10 p.m. MST and weekends 719-390-1900 days.

LONGABERGER BASKETS for sale. See my website: <http://www.longabergerbaskets.com>

BEANIE BABIES Show. November 28th. Long Island, NY at the Melville Marriott Hotel, off L.I.E. exit 49N. Retireds, currents and new releases. Show times 10am to 4:30pm.

BETTY PAGES 1-3, 5-7 exc. cond., \$40 for all ppd. Sandman Binder still sealed \$15 plus \$3 P&H. Dan Goulding 80-892-6495.

STAR TREK and X-Files autographs, classic, DS9, Voyager, TNG. Others. Robert Farney, PO Box 341071, Milwaukee, WI 53234. 414-546-4627. rfarnay@execpc.com

HERCULES RECORD album featuring Steve Reeves, 1960's RCA mint condition in and out, \$50. Steve Berdy, 159 W. Sherman Ave., Newark, NY 14513. 315-331-6618.

BABE RUTH'S bat boy types personal letter to your child. (Tell me about him or her). \$15. David Kohnhorst, PO Box 103, Sunland, CA 91041.

OLIVIA "BETTY" Tin sign 12"x16" still sealed 1992 kitchen sink. Beautiful art. \$15 plus postage. Over 21 please. Bob Nastasi, 12 Gillette Avenue, Sayville, NY 11782. 516-567-8069.

JAPANESE SUPERHEROES and more on VHS! Hundreds of titles available. For catalog, send SASE (2 stamps) to: Gweilo Video, PO Box 2811, Redmond, WA 98073.

HUGE FALL Clearance Oddball Sports Collectibles now available, \$1 postpaid. Trades, comics, toys, stamps accepted. Southshore, Box 262, Marlboro, NJ 07746. 732-972-9435, evenings, weekends.

4661 MISCELLANEOUS, WANTED

WRESTLING FANS: Wanted information and videos of Independent Southern wrestling promotions (especially, MS, LA, TN!) Charles Kline, PO Box 791, Cleveland, MS 38732-0791.

SMASHING PUMPKINS T-Shirt wanted, also other S.Pumpkins items wanted. Will pay cash or have comics to trade. Shannon McIntosh, PO Box 155, Mineral Wells, WV 26150. 304-489-9307.

LAUGH-IN PINBACK buttons wanted by collector. Also need Laugh-In Magazines #6, 8, 10, 12. Funny Face drink packs, MADS #253-4, 257, 270, 276, NM. Marc 516-829-8376.

GROO BUTTONS from 1980's San Diego Comicon (not the cloisonne pins). Contact: Gary, 8916 Blomberg St. SW, Olympia, WA 98512. 360-352-0432. E-mail: grossfam@olywa.net

STILL LOOKING for 70s Mead binders! Cap, Spidey, Avengers VF-NM please. Also Pepsi glasses from 70s superheroes! Larry 414-652-2160.

MARLBORO MILES wanted. Paying 10¢ per 100 miles plus postage cost (up to 55¢ per shipment). Send to: Scot Talmadge, 304 Major Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10305. E-Mail: charlyhoho@aol.com

DOC SAVAGE Bust, Watchmen Button (smiley face w/blood), Mabinogion hardcover. Todd Adams, 340 S. Logan Ave., Trenton, NJ 08629.

HULK #162. Pay 125% OPG plus shipping. Near Mint or better. Help me out!! Gilbert Bradley, 8523 Mt. Scott, El Paso, TX 79904.

GARBAGE ROCK Group imported EPs with additional tracks wanted. Also videos. Will trade comics, cards, books, toys, etc. Randy Crawford, Box 255, Minden, WV 25879.

VAMPIRELLA GRAPHITTI designs kit. E-Mail: zakfink@aol.com Mark 716-6674-9520.

HOT WHEELS cars and accessories from the 1960s and early 1970s. Make some cash from the cars that are sitting in the closet! Gene 281-347-0648.

1960s MARVEL Hero Toys, Posters, Rings, Marvelmania, and Marvel Cartoon Photos, etc. 219-334-5215. Mike Alt, 6550 South 400 West, Berne, IN 46711.

4661 MISCELLANEOUS, WANTED

BERNI WRIGHTSON Checklist, Nagarya Part 1 7-11, "Monster" slurpee cups, Vampirella fan club button and patch, Warren Mag slipcases. Jeff Mirrione, P.O. Box 2212, Hollister, CA 95024.

VIDEO WANTED: The Dot and the Line; Sweet November; Jacques Brel is Alive and Well and Living in Paris. Zanvil, 228-G Freedom, Belleville, IL 62226.

WANT AMF #15 Fossil watch, would like to trade my fossil McFarlane Spidey watch for it! MIB please. Thanks. Tom Vanko, 1527 Somerset, Munster, IN 46321-4387.

WACKY PACKAGES original artwork wanted! Looking for pieces by Saunders. Bum Chex, Camals, Kook-Aid, Mess Clairoil, etc. Phil 713-500-6032 or bumchex@aol.com

WANTED DUNGEONS and Dragons cartoon episodes! Anyone know where I can get 'em? Rudy Junior, 72 Horn Lane, Levittown, NY 11756. ruoyaub@erols.com

WANTED: LOOSE/ complete Green Arrow Mego, Green Arrow Mego, Green Arrow Mego Fn/NM please not more than \$100, write the Dreamer, 11140 Maple St., Cleveland, TX 77327.

SPACE CASES episode wanted featuring the Babylon 5 teddy bear. I have much on tape to trade. Lorraine, PO Box 5121, Manchester, NH 03108. hasshin@tiac.net

STAMP WANTED. Scott #934 3¢ Army issue. Singles, blocks or sheets. Buying in quantity. Send prices to: Thoenke, PO Box 14261, Santa Rosa, CA 95402.

1960s MARVEL Hero Toys, Posters, Rings, Marvelmania, and Photos, etc. 1960s Marvel Cartoons. Mike Alt, 6550 South 400 West, Berne, IN 46711. 219-334-5215.

4700 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES FOR SALE

MODEL KITS: Plastic, resin and vinyl. From and of comics, Sci-Fi, TV, movies, space, figures, etc. Old and new, hundreds available. Free sales catalog, we also buy and trade. JF Green Models, Dept. CBG, PO Box 55787, Riverside, CA 92517. 909-684-5300, 800-807-4759, Fax 909-684-8819, e-mail: cbg@greenmodels.com website: <http://www.greenmodels.com>

GENE AUTRY picture puzzle, 1954 Whitman Pub. Co., "VG", \$30. Jim Burke, 61 Parker St., Freehold, NJ 07728.

SUPERMAN COLORING book, 1955 Whitman NM+ (rare) \$125 OBO, Superman scrap book, 1940 VG \$150, also rare. Vic 530-671-3956 before 9 PST.

DOCTOR MEGO'S repros go to <http://www.drmeo.com> to see reproductions of many Mego accessories or call 516-753-1622 for a catalog.

CREEPER! BTAS, \$20 ppd. Han Solo and Obi Wan sendaway, \$40 ppd. Call James 609-386-3964 or e-mail jminieri@m-s-g.com

ACTION FIGURES 25% to 50% off White's Guide; Strategy and other board games available. Lists for SASE. Brevard, PO Box 2492, Oshkosh, WI 54901.

GAMES? WE have hundreds, old/new, rare/nostalgic favorites, for sale! For latest catalog, send \$3.95 to: Gamers Alliance, Box 197-CBG, East Meadow, NY 11554.

FING-FANG FOOM action figure MIB \$15. Smothers Brothers yo-yo \$6.95. Addams Family flashlights four different for \$10 postpaid. Michael O'Hara, PO Box 651, New York, NY 10028-0006.

1960s MARVELMANIA Wanted! Buying M.M.M.S.; buttons, T-shirts, Spider-Man items, toys, posters, portfolios, Spider-Man original art, Romita, Stationery sets, Marvel bullpen autographs, anything! Contact: Aaron 919-954-7111.

KAYBEE EXCLUSIVE Kirk Spock from Mirror Mirror and City on Edge of Forever sets \$135. Han/Taunta \$100. Mark Arthington, 959 E. Main St. #243, Prattville, AL 36066.

STAR WARS, neck chain jewelry, small figures R2D2, C3PO, (1977) 20th Century Fox \$12 postpaid. Paul Bocci, 53 Berkley St., Valley Stream, NY 11581. 516-791-2182.

MATTEL 1965 Linus the Lionhead puppet General Foods Corp. made in Japan Elmer Fudd vinyl dog toy mint. Devitt, Box 217, Salisbury Mills, NY 12577.

TV AND other celebrity paperdoll books for sale 1940's-70's, comics paperdolls. Send LSASE for list #3. Janice Hanks, 116 School St., Littleton, NH 03561.

HOBBY EXCLUSIVES! New action figures featured every month. Free catalog. Trading Card Workshop, PO Box 18362, San Jose, CA 95158. 408-448-0447 (phone/fax). tcworkshop@aol.com.

4701 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES WANTED

FROM THE 70's Marvel World playset, cardboard with characters 1976. Marvelmania Stationery, Marvel inflatable pillows, bumper stickers. Hal Reed, 320 Parkshore Dr., Columbia, SC 29223.

SUPERMAN WANTED! Buying older Superman collectibles. Look for my booth at the Big Apple Comicon November 13th and 14th! Danny Fuchs, 209-80 18th Ave., Bayside, NY 11360.

MAJOR MATT Mason, Zeroids, 1960's Space Toys. Al-AMMs and Marvelmania stuff. MIB or loose. Ray Kolasa, 2428 Lyric Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90027. 323-663-4578. ray.kolasa@unistudios.com

4701 NOVELTIES, TOYS, GAMES
WANTED

CASH FOR your old role playing games, especially large collections. TSR, FASA, GDW, Chaosium, Games Workshop, etc. E-mail stackmd@aol.com Mike 609-799-0954.

MONKEES ITEMS wanted: toys, games, dolls, sheet music, tickets, etc. Circus Boy items also wanted. Rick Rann, Box 877, Oak Park, IL 60303.

ROCKY AND Bullwinkle vinyl figures made by Hungerford wanted, any 1960s ceramics from the show. Roland Coover, 1537 E. Strasburg Rd., West Chester, PA 19380.

1960S ULTRAMAN Dolls wanted. Visit my website: http://www.netcom.com/~mna_gata.com/ultra.html The ultimate Ultraman toy collection on the web.

WANTED: CRACKER Jack Prizes, singles or collections. Top prices paid. Call or write. Brian Brown, 1585 Main St., Stratford, CT 06615. 203-378-0316.

MEGO WANTED: Need loose Mr. Fantastic and Invisible Woman. Contact: Ray at 914-747-5874 or E-mail rayfan4@aol.com

MEGO WANTED! Any and everything needed. Contact Chris at carly@idd.net

4720 VIDEO GAMES FOR SALE

ATARI 5200 with roller ball controller, plus 9 cartridges \$75. Hand held controllers need repair, otherwise mint. R. Szymanski, 5725-11 Foxlake Dr., N. Ft. Myers, FL 33917.

4721 VIDEO GAMES WANTED

FINAL FANTASY 2 and 3 for SNES. Boxes and instructions preferred, but not absolutely necessary. Matt Biswell, 1626 Rossi St., Boise, ID 83706-3354.

4800 FANZINES, FOR SALE

THE MODERATE Sized Book of Crummy Cartoons, \$2 plus SASE. PO Box 131, Eddington, ME 04428. "Miserable enough for all Misery Lists" -Daria.

YELLOWBACK LIBRARY is a monthly magazine for collectors of juvenile series books. Sample issue \$3. Gil O'Gara, Box 36172, Des Moines, IA 50315.

COMICS, PULP 'zines. RBCC, Xenophile, Erb-dom, Bronze Gazette, Amra, more. Send long SASE for list. James Van Hise, 57754 Onaga Trail, Yucca Valley, CA 92284.

COMICS F/X newspaper reviewzines #1-#17 (April 1988-March 1991). Hundreds of reviews and articles, 50¢/ea. plus postage. S. Dorne, 191-H Oakland St., Manchester, CT 06040.

AWODC #1 \$30, CBM #2 \$15, others. Bob Craig, PO Box 1184, Lockport, NY 14095-1184. 716-439-6172.

COMIC READER 82-137 \$6 each, 138-157 \$5 each, 158-163 \$4 each. Sanford Wong, PO Box 6431, Alhambra, CA 91802.

4801 FANZINES, WANTED

ALGO 1-16. Amra 1-43, 54, 63. High Adventure 24. Pulp Adventures 1, 3, 6. Gary Helfrich, 1635 Westley Court, Fort Wayne, IN 46845.

4900 NEWSPAPER STRIPS, FOR SALE

PICK OUT dates. Daily and Sunday. Great Selection. 1895 to 1997. Send your wantlist and SASE to: Gordon Campbell, 1124 Brookmeade Drive, Nashville, TN 37204

BIG SUNDAY comic list, \$1 (refundable). I also buy Sunday comics before 1960, pulp magazines, Edgar Rice Burrough's books. Claude Held, Box 515, Buffalo, NY 14225.

CATALOG #2 is now ready! Free, well illustrated list. Comic strips from 1920s, 1930s, 1940s. Get yours Quick! James Doyiakos, 2221 W. Lawrence, Chicago, IL 60625.

HOGAN'S ALLEY: The magazine for fans of strips, books. Sample issue \$7. Hogan's Alley, POB 47684, Atlanta, GA 30362. New, improved website! Visit www.cagle.com/hogan

BIG FLAT City! OK, maybe "BigFlatcitymania" is dying down a bit, but trendy, alternative laughs can be found at: <http://members.aol.com/bigflatcity/index.html>

BIG FLAT City marketing blitz is dying down... Still time to load up on mini-comics! Only \$1 each at: PO Box 68256, Indianapolis, IN 46268.

TERRY AND The Pirates- scrapbook. Looks to complete dailies Sundays, Dec. 1942 to May 1943, most loose, \$30. Rob Griffith, 3456 Dixiana Drive, Lexington, KY 40517.

4900 NEWSPAPER STRIPS, FOR SALE

HOWARD THE Duck First 10 Sundays- plus promo \$20+ Jay Mampel, 336 East 326th St., Willowick, OH 44095. 440-585-1889.

HOGAN'S ALLEY: The Thinking Fan's Comics Magazine. Comic strips, books intelligently appreciated. Sample issue \$7. Hogan's Alley, POB 47684, Atlanta, GA 30362. www.cagle.com/hogan

4901 NEWSPAPER STRIPS, WANTED

SUNDAY COMICS wanted. Large collections 1900-1960 immediate cash. Trades available. Peter Maresca, 450 Monroe Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94306, pete@zenda.com Phone/FAX: 415-941-7988.

BUYING COLLECTIONS, Puck sections, Spirit tabs. Phone/ Fax 510-666-0732. Starland Strips, 1563 Solano #155, Berkeley, CA 94707.

BUYING PRE-1930 Sunday pages, full color fulls! Paying high prices! See my "Today's Collector" ad! Michael Dice, Drawer 1748, Cortez, CO 81321. 970-564-9018. E-mail: oldcomix@fone.net

PRINCE VALIANT by Foster '60s, '70s, full pages only. Gary Rich, 445 Molino Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94086.

WANTED! SUPERMAN Dailies from the 1950s. Xerox copies only. Cochran, PO Box 242, Planetarium Station, New York, NY 10024-0242.

POV

(From Page 46)

gravity suspended.

You have to pretend. It's fun to pretend.

A magician allows us to pretend, which is something we've been doing all our lives, ever since that first game of Cops 'n' Robbers. If he allows us to see the wires — or the false feet or the trap door — well, we know there's something of the sort involved. But by letting us see it — by putting it right in our faces, by showing the specifics — he makes it difficult (usually, impossible) for us to pretend.

Every magician I've ever met has been obsessed with hiding the wires. Even in front of folks who know the secret, the instinct is to conceal the gimmickry. It is their natural and understandable concern not to be careless about letting strangers see how it's done — even backstage at The Paddlewheel Hotel.

For about a half-hour, this poor fellow sat there, hog-tying birds and muttering about how he should have a private dressing room. At one point, hoping to ease his discomfort, I opened my wallet and flashed my Magic Castle membership card at him.

Didn't matter. He said something to me like, "I hate having people watching me when I'm setting up — even other magicians. It kills the illusion." Well, I couldn't argue with that.

The show began, as all Vegas shows do, right on schedule. The magician, musicians, and dancers darted in and out as Barbutti attempted to tell me a long, hysterical story about Liberace. It was so long that he was nowhere near the punchline as his time approached. He climbed into his tuxedo at the last possible second and said, "Remember where I left off. If I can't finish this story, it's your fault."

I slipped into the wings to watch his turn on stage. He did 20 hysterical minutes, but, that night, the crowd was two

steps past *rigor mortis*. The hotel was not doing well and it was a rainy Sunday, to boot. So there were few folks out front and none of them were laughing. Not at first.

Pete told a couple of his choicest jokes and I was laughing. So were most of the on-stage musicians, even though they'd heard them all before. They were laughing because, first of all, Pete is a great storyteller. Even the 300th time, his jokes are pretty good. But they were also laughing because Pete was in trouble. They knew it and he knew it and I knew it and, if the audience hadn't been among the deceased, they'd have known it, too.

He finished one of his best stories to tepid response, the only giggles emanating come from the band and from me in the wings. Incredibly, he turned to the house and said, "Excuse me for one moment, please." Then he stepped to the edge of the proscenium and whispered to me —

"I'd tell Security to throw them out of here but I have a feeling Security threw them in here."

I collapsed in laughter (I should have been sitting out front where it would have helped), and Pete marched back to his spot and launched fearlessly into another story. He was determined to conquer that audience before he left the stage —

— and darned if he didn't do it.

It took a while — and a lesser comic would have either given up or he'd still be there, sweating and babbling on. But Barbutti is as seasoned as a professional can get; he has worked every kind of crowd a comic can work, played every kind of house, weathered every kind of blizzard. He sized up his opponents, shifted to more intimate chatter, picked one guy in the second row to chat with — and, by the time his 20 minutes were up, he had made the oil painting laugh. Incredible.

Things went better at the late show, which I caught from out front.

The girls were gorgeous, the band was great, the audience was among the living — and Pete even told the story about the pig with the wooden leg. Just for me.

As for the magician — whose stage name, by the way, was Valentino — his act struck me as "David Copperfield Lite." There was nothing really wrong with it but it was a bit too generic. Your great magicians either do tricks that no one else does — or they do the same tricks but do them in ways that no one else does them. Sometimes, they simply do them so well that they bring things to a new level.

Mr. Copperfield, for instance, has had the ingenuity (and the budget) to concoct feats that no one else has ever performed. Lance Burton has some of those in his act and also does a classic sleight-of-hand turn — producing doves and cards from nowhere — that is so expert that other magicians stare in awe. Penn and Teller have created brilliant, usually hilarious ways of repackaging time-honored routines.

And I'll also mention one of my favorite acts: the Pendragons. They do wonderful, innovative tricks, but their *pièce de résistance* is "Metamorphosis." That's the trick where the magician puts handcuffs on his assistant, stuffs her in a cloth sack, ties the sack at the top, puts it in a trunk, locks the trunk — and then somehow manages to switch places with her in about five seconds.

The Pendragons do it in one.

I am not exaggerating — or underestimating or whatever the operative term is. Jonathan Pendragon (a big comics fan, by the way) is trussed up by his lovely co-conspirator and spouse, Charlotte. She incarcerates him in an oversized footlocker and then, suddenly — *bang!* — she's in there, he's on the outside, and your jaw is hanging open. It looks like there's been a camera trick, even when they do it right in front of you.

When the Pendragons play the Magic Castle, seasoned magicians poke their heads in, just to see the finale, just to see

a classic routine done better than anyone else has ever done it. It's a thing of beauty — like watching a top gymnast or a world-class diver. It's not that they're doing something completely new but that they're doing it so well.

Measured against any of the above standards, Valentino's performance fell sadly short. Oh, it would have been fine at a kid's birthday party, in between the Twister game and the Shetland Pony. And his closer, where he seemingly produced the two ducks from God-knows-where, was decent —

But this was Vegas, where the standard is David Copperfield, Lance Burton, Siegfried and Roy, and a half-dozen other champs in the art of legerdemain, prestidigitation, and upscale rabbit-pulling. For magicians, Las Vegas is like "New York, New York" is for the rest of us: If you can make it there, you'll make it anywhere.

That is, if you're really good.

If you're not, you wind up playing the cheap shows, like the ones they do in the afternoon — or not working at all. Which was pretty much the story of Mr. Valentino's career after that. He played a few other hotels, usually during daylight hours, and tried headlining here and there, in Vegas and Branson, to no lasting success — this, during the greatest boom time ever for magicians.

Finally, he did something that changed his career and got everyone in the magic business talking about him. He covered his face and began appearing on the Fox TV Network as "The Masked Magician," exposing the secrets of how the great magic tricks are done.

He shows the wires, the trap doors, the fake feet. This is the same guy who didn't want me to see how he tied up his doves.

I'm going to continue this next week. Remember where I left off. If I can't finish this story, it's your fault.

Mark Evanier can be reached at 363 S. Fairfax Ave., #303, Los Angeles, CA 90036 or in cyberspace at his new, egotistical address: me@evanier.com. □

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Mon., Nov. 23, 1998	1309	Dec. 18, 1998	Tues., Dec. 15, 1998	1312	Jan. 8, 1999
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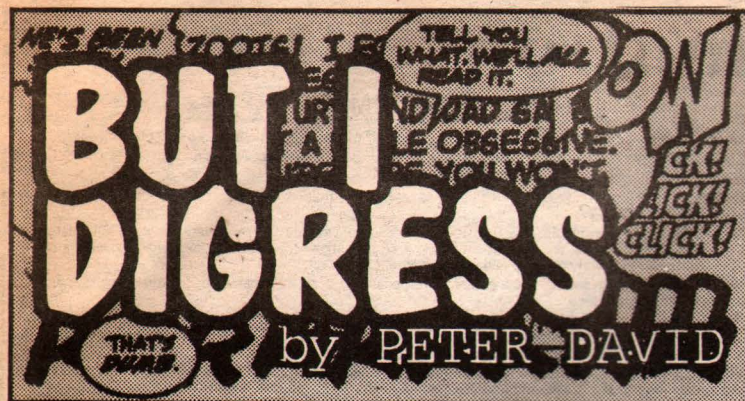
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The owner was not happy. The collision had jolted him from his sound sleep. It had been a serene slumber, for he had had his usual pleasant dreams. It had been dreams of his ownership of the *Marvelmanic*, the biggest, most powerful of its kind. He dreamt of others looking on in amazement, marveling at what he had constructed. He was the king of all there was, he was the surveyor of a world that looked upon him with awe. He revelled in adulation, he foresaw new towers of power that he would climb and from there he would look down upon all those whom he had left behind. They admired him, they feared him, they sought to be like him and all the while knew that they could never begin to match his greatness.

And there were the headlines, the headlines he was always boasting that he would achieve, headlines that he was constantly seeking. Headlines describing his latest, greatest triumph — whatever that might happen to be. He was determined that *Marvelmanic* was going to give him opportunities for newer, even bigger headlines. Full-page banners, crowning him as the new king of entertainment, touting his empire ...

All very pleasant dreams — until the sudden, massive thud, followed quickly by a grinding noise evocative of a thousand coffin lids opening. It sent him tumbling to the floor, and, once he pulled himself together, he yanked on a robe and headed to the command center.

There he saw a situation that could best be defined as controlled chaos. The captain was there, and so was the architect. The architect, of advancing years but astoundingly spry, was bent over various charts of the *Marvelmanic's* infrastructure. He looked like a coiled spring, ready to leap out in any direction but, instead, barely contained. The captain was cool and yet he seemed apprehensive.

"What's going on?" demanded the owner. "Why have we stopped?"

"Five compartments, yes, but not six," the architect was saying.

"What are you talking about? What's this about compartments?"

"We appear, sir," the captain

said, "to have hit something. A series of somethings. And it's had a calamitous effect on the *Marvelmanic*."

The owner shook his head in annoyance. "Oh, nonsense. Certainly, we've had some bumps in reorganization — but it was bound to happen. It's nothing to be concerned about. So when can we get under way again?"

"You don't understand," said the architect. Almost through force of will, he guided the owner's gaze to the diagrams. "Those 'bumps' you speak of are just the tip of the iceberg. Look here." He started pointing, one compartment after the other. "Management who knew what they were doing were replaced by management who had no comprehension of the comics market. That's one. Then we tried to self-distribute, and it was a disaster. It laid waste to the direct market, making it not only damned near impossible to get our comic books, but also driving retailers out of business because their shipping and ordering costs skyrocketed. That's two. We glutted the marketplace with assorted gimmicks and tons of issue #1s. That's three. We ran up such massive debt that we drove the company into bankruptcy. That's four. We established a cut-off line for cancellation of titles,

thereby guaranteeing that titles which were marginal-but-promising would be dumped, thereby alienating readers. That's five. We might have been able to stay afloat, even with all of that.

"But we've torn a gaping hole in the New Reader Department. We're doing nothing to bring in new readers. We're canceling books while, at the same time, firing the editorial staff who would be overseeing new titles and not pushing anything through that's new and different. We're withdrawing all but eight titles from the newsstand and concentrating on the direct market — except the direct market doesn't bring in new readers. The newsstand does that.

"That's six compartments. She was built to withstand five compartments being breached — but not six."

The owner still couldn't quite wrap himself around what the architect was saying. "I — I don't understand ..."

"I'm saying we're taking on water." The architect's hand glided over the diagrams. "It's spilled in through the breach in the first compartment, and now it's moving through the second, and third, and so on, faster and faster. Within a very short time — *Marvelmanic* — will flounder."

For the briefest of moments, the owner thought it was a joke. A sickly laugh died in his throat. "But — but the *Marvelmanic* can't sink."

"She's made of paper, sir," the architect said stiffly. "I assure you — she can. And she will. It is," and his voice took on a funereal tone, "a mathematical certainty."

A PETER DAVID FILM

MARVELMANIC

The owner felt the cold, hard stare of the captain upon his neck. He turned to face him.

"Well, Mr. Owner," the captain said with surprising calm, "it looks like you're going to get your headlines after all."

Jack and Rose had broken away from the tour group and were running through the halls of the *Marvelmanic*. The precariousness of their situation had not fully dawned on them yet. They were two young fans who felt as if the entire world was theirs. They believed in *Marvelmanic*, and managing to get two tickets on the tour had been one of the greatest joys of their young lives.

They had felt the *Marvelmanic* shudder, but thought nothing of it at first. It had been a disconcerting enough jolt, but it seemed to be of no consequence. It had certainly felt as if they'd hit something, but so what? The *Marvelmanic* was unsinkable. Everyone knew that.

They took one turn around a corner, then another. Suddenly Jack started to slow. "Hold on, Rose," he said. "Are you — are you noticing anything?"

"What do you mean, Jack?" she asked, but then she started to look around. "Wait a minute — where is everybody? Didn't there used to be — people here?"

"Yeah. A lot of people," Jack said.

The editorial office — the area that had been called "editor's row" — was empty. Offices were darkened, cleaned out. There was a frightful silence. The famed Bullpen was, likewise, deserted.

They moved quickly, looking for someone, anyone. In one office they found a few editors, huddled together, frightened looks in their eyes. "What's happened?" Jack demanded. "What's going on? Where is everyone else?"

"Gone," whispered one of the editors, as if communicating from beyond the grave. "Gone — all gone. Soon, we will be, too. We'll ..."

Suddenly he stopped talking, something having caught his attention. Jack and Rose turned and saw someone dressed entirely in black, heavily cloaked. It was impossible to tell if it was a man or a woman. The figure held a scythe held firmly in its grasp.

"Well, *this* can't be good," observed Jack. Rose clutched his arm ever more tightly and whimpered softly in fear.

The figure stood there a long moment, and then stretched out a bony arm and pointed at one of the editors cowering in the back corner of the room. And then the figure spoke six terrifying words in a raspy voice:

"Human Resources wants to see you."

The selected editor let out a pitious moan and looked to the others for help, but there was nothing to be said. Without a word, he followed the dark figure out.

The moment the dark figure was gone, another editor — looking terrified and desperate — scuttled into the office. "They got Millie," he said in a hoarse whisper.

There was a loud wail then, cries of utter disbelief, shouts of "Not Millie!" Then, their agony spent, they lapsed into silence once more.

"We have to do something!" Rose cried out. But none of the remaining editors replied. "Don't just sit there!" she urged once more. "We —"

Then she felt a wetness around her shoes. She and Jack looked down. The carpet was becoming soaked. "Oh — my God," whispered Rose. "We're — we're sinking. *Marvelmanic* — is sinking."

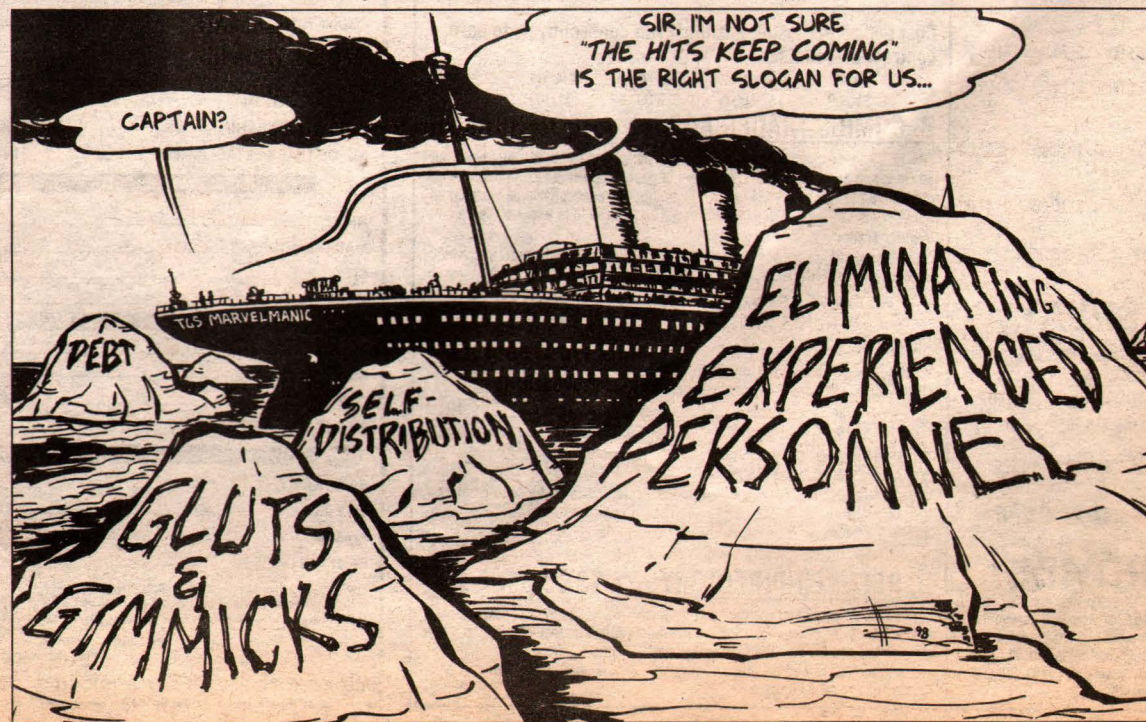
"That's not possible," Jack said. Suddenly they heard skittering noises. They looked around, then down — and around —

Spiders. Hundreds, no, thousands of them, moving across the wall and ceiling like a great black mass. Moving as quickly as they could, up and out.

And the water was rising ...

(To Be Continued)

Peter David, writer of stuff, can be written to at To Be Continued Inc., PO Box 239, Bayport, NY 11705.



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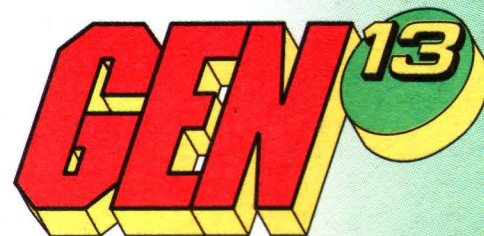
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